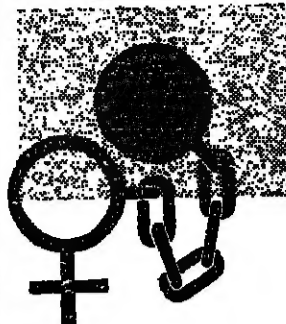


THE TIMES

## Tomorrow

Wives in chains



The western women who marry into Japanese families and cannot adjust to the servitude.

Helping hands Our series discovers why young people go into full-time community service.

Poverty trap The poor are getting poorer, according to Shadow Cabinet member Robin Cook.

Winning ways Previews of vital matches in the European soccer cup competitions.

## Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize was shared by two winners yesterday. Mrs Yvonne Ray of Orpington, Kent, and Mrs Melita Alvis of London each received £1,000. Portfolio list page 20; How to play, information service, back page.

## The Times

The Times did not reach many of its readers yesterday because of a fire in its printing works, which delayed production at a crucial time for more than four hours. Details of a Mori poll, to help readers of the Spectrum series, are given again on page 10; the portfolio game continues in the usual way, but yesterday's card details will be given on Saturday for the benefit of weekly game players.

Portfolio list, page 20

## Attack on 'cowboy' builders

The Building Employers Confederation is launching a scheme to thwart "cowboy" builders. It covers building work between £500 and £25,000 and is underwritten by a leading insurance company. Halifax Building Society members will have access to a register of local builders.

## China parades aging weapons

An array of military technology, most of it based on the 1960s, was on display in Peking during an extravagant parade that cost the equivalent of several hundred million pounds.

## Bishop's attack

The Bishop of Durham has accused the Government of refusing to care for the poor and of making a virtue of confrontation in the miners' strike.

## Sanctuary move

The United States is studying a request for sanctuary from lawyers acting for the "Durban Six" who have taken refuge in the British consulate there.

## Edwardes goes

Sir Michael Edwardes, the former chairman of B.L., has stepped down as the chairman of I.C.L. Britain's biggest computer group.

## Leader page 15

Letters: On the miners, from Prof T. Wilson, and others; "Durban Six", from Dr C F Forsyth; rabies, from Mr B M Williams. Leading articles: Labour and the miners; East-West and Eastern Europe; New Zealand Prime Minister. Features, pages 10, 13, 14. Lord Levin defends the sinking of the Belgrano; Kinnock on the wrong track; Roger Scruton applauds a holy war. Spectrum: how youth can serve. Fashion: computer-age fabric. Obituary, page 16. Mr Hal Porter. Dr J. H. C. Morris. Computer Horizons, page 17-18. The Times and Hewlett-Packard announce the first UK Computer Press Awards.

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## Pit strike vote upsets leader

## Labour rejects Kinnock's reselection proposal

● The Labour conference rejected a proposal backed by Mr Kinnock for "one member, one vote" for reselecting MPs.

● Labour's delegates carried motions condemning police violence and called for laws to restrict police action during strikes.

From Julian Haviland  
Political Editor  
Blackpool

The Labour Party conference, while proclaiming its support for Mr Neil Kinnock, the leader it elected a year ago, yesterday refused to follow his advice and change the troublesome rules governing the reselection of Labour MPs.

The proposed change was the first contentious matter to which Mr Kinnock had publicly lent his full authority, and so deliberately hazarded his standing in the party.

The immediate effect of the reselection vote, in which the conference rejected his guidance by a ratio of seven to six, was therefore hurtful to him. It was also worrying for the two or three dozen Labour MPs who are in some fear under the present rules of losing the support of their local parties and being dumped.

The change was intended to increase their protection when the reselection process begins in December by giving them at least the chance of appealing over the heads of hostile activists to the full membership. As so often, the conference spoke yesterday with more than one voice. It twice rejected, by more than two million votes or more than two to one, resolutions which demanded no change.



Labour's leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, listening to a debate yesterday. (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

Some in the party leadership were able to argue from that last night that the conference had therefore voted for change, and that Mr Kinnock and the new national executive committee, to be elected today might be entitled to delay reselection for 12 months while a more acceptable formula is found. But the specific Kinnock plans, devised by Mr John Evans, MP for St Helens North

and moved by him on behalf of the NEC, was rejected by 3,041,000 votes to 3,592,000. That had been half feared. But the platform was then left naked when another resolution, which would have endorsed the principle of Mr Kinnock's ideas, but subjected them to 12 months' delay for further thought, was also heavily, and unexpectedly, defeated.

The completeness of that rout

● Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' president, was served with a writ that could lead to his being jailed for contempt of court.

● The Coal Board greeted coolly suggestion by Labour politicians and the pit deputies' union for arbitration on the miners' strike.

● Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, accused Labour of "standing reality on its head" in its condemnation of police violence.

● A senior police officer who helped two working miners defy picket lines later condemned "law and order intimidation" (Page 2)

## How the votes were cast

Issue	For	Against
<b>MINERS AND POLICE</b>		
Concern over police action; want accountability	4,117	2,486
Condemn police violence; urge Labour Govt to pass law keeping police out of strikes	CARRIED	CARRIED
<b>ONE MAN, ONE VOTE</b>		
Not postponing any decision	2,282	4,321
Not postponing any decision	3,041	3,592
Not postponing any decision	2,188	4,389
Not postponing any decision	2,068	4,553

## Orme presses board on pits initiative

By Paul Routledge and David Felton

Labour politicians and the pit deputies' union, Nacods, are putting pressure on the National Coal Board to allow a binding, independent appeal machinery on the closure of exhausted pits.

This latest initiative to break the deadlock between the two sides as the coal strike goes into its eighth month has been accepted as a basis for reopening negotiations by leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers.

It has been given a cool reception, however, by Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the board, who wants "to restore management" in the industry. The board has consistently opposed outside intervention in its final powers to close collieries after an internal review.

But Mr Stanley Orme, shadow energy minister, insisted last night that the proposal for independent scrutiny, hinted at in his speech to the party conference, was still alive and would be pressed in further private contacts with both sides.

One mechanism for the appeal procedure, it is argued, would be a revamped version of the national reference tribunal, the little-used arbitration panel within the industry chaired by a

lawyer from outside. Its decisions are binding on both sides.

The news of the latest peace move leaked out as the miners celebrated their overwhelming win in the party conference debate on the pits strike which voted with only a few dissenters to back the miners' Reselection effects

Conference reports	2
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leaders and condemn "unlawful actions by the police".

After winning the "total support" of the TUC last month, miners' leaders are jubilant at securing the backing of the Labour Party conference, with the significant exception of the electricians' union, for their strike strategy.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, said confidently: "We will win, there is no doubt about it".

Away from the rhetoric of the debate the continuing close contacts between miners' leaders, Mr Orme and the "three wise men" appointed by the TUC to monitor the peace

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Mr Arthur Scargill emphasizing a point during

## Bank of England leading by

By Peter Wilson-Smith  
and Michael Prest

The Bank of England has masterminded a multi-million pound rescue package for one of the City's top bullion dealers, Johnson Matthey Bankers, after potential losses estimated at £100m to £150m were uncovered on its commercial customers.

The rescue involves the Bank of England buying back a portfolio of assets believed to be £1.1bn about 25 banks, including big clearers are not estimated £250m for the portfolio.

The package was hammered out at dramatic meetings in the Bank of England which lasted through out Sunday night. Several hundred people were present, including Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, governor of the Bank of England, and many senior bankers.

The problems at Johnson Matthey, which have nothing to do with its bullion dealing activities but centre on a few big commercial loans, came to light within the past two weeks. Such was the scale of the problem that it threatened the

confidence in the banking system.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton said when the Bank took over Slater Walker, Edward Bates to safeguard confidence in the banking system.

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confidence in the banking system.

## Police rout Sikh shrine extremists

From Michael Hamlyn  
Delhi

Just as the Indian Government feared, no sooner was the Sikhs' holiest shrine, the Golden Temple of Amritsar, returned to civilian hands, than gangs of young extremists were back inside shouting slogans in support of the dead terrorist leader, Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranvale.

They drove priests out of the building, newly restored after it was all but destroyed four months ago in the military assault, and raised the flag of Khalistan - the separate "Land of the pure". But this time the forces of law and order were standing no nonsense.

Police stormed into the temple, arresting 400 people and cordoned off the complex. Later, a Punjab government said the situation was under "complete control".

The Golden Temple of Amritsar, the holiest shrine of the Sikhs, was returned to civilian hands, but it was not long before a group of young extremists were back inside shouting slogans in support of the dead terrorist leader, Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranvale.

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## We'll also help wipe away Susan's fears.

The children who come to our lines have usually reached the depths of despair. So it can take months and often years of love and dedicated care to help them through their trauma.

Unfortunately, it also takes increasingly large amounts of money. All at a time when cases like Susan's are becoming both more complicated and more frequent.

We'd like to be able to help even more children, but it's a struggle just to keep our present homes open.

So please send a donation to: Church of England Children's Society, Freeport, London SE11 4ER.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

The Children's Society

هنا من الأخبار



## Crushing defeat for Kinnock leaves a dozen MPs at risk

From Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent, Blackpool

About a dozen Labour MPs threatened with rejection by their general constituencies after Mr Kinnock's crushing defeat in his constituency at Blackpool to introduce a one-vote, one-person election system.

Mr Kinnock, Labour's chief whip, who is in jeopardy in his Bristol, South, constituency, was defeated by 4,320,000 to 3,941,000.

The debate began with an emergency motion from the National Union of Mineworkers suggesting that no decision should be taken and that further consultations should take place with the unions, with a deadline set. That was defeated by 4,320,000 to 3,941,000.

Next came a vote on the Evans amendment, which was lost narrowly, by 3,992,000 to 3,941,000.

A further resolution, simply rejecting the new plan was also defeated before a conference opened its attention to Mr Kinnock's only possible escape route, that resolution, which accepted one-person, one-vote in principle, while calling for a year's delay, was opposed by the national executive.

Nevertheless, Mr Kinnock sent a national executive emissary down to Mr Terry Duffy, turned to Mr Kinnock and gave a thumbs up and the resolution by 4,333,000 to 3,941,000.

Mr Kinnock's only possible escape route, that resolution, which accepted one-person, one-vote in principle, while calling for a year's delay, was opposed by the national executive.

ports, page 4

## Yorkshire rebels send High Court victory

From Peter Davenport, Manton

The assistant chief constable of Nottinghamshire who masterminded the operation allowing two Yorkshire miners to send their High Court victory against the National Union of Mineworkers with a return to work yesterday condemned the "raw and naked intimidation" that kept others at home.

Mr Edwards, who was speaking after 1,000 pickets heading for Manton colliery on the outskirts of Worksop in the South Yorkshire coalfield were turned back by police on approach roads.

The miners accompanied underground workers Mr Ken Fairclough and Mr Bob Taylor, who last week secured a ruling that picket lines in Yorkshire were unlawful, when they clocked on at 10.43am, more than four hours after the normal shift time. The court had hoped more men would have joined them.

The picket line had dwindled to fewer than two dozen. Mrs Anne Scargill, the wife of the NUM president, had also left by then.

Several hundred police, dog units and horses mustered in the colliery yard and a police helicopter hovered overhead.

There were shouts of "scabs", but earlier in the morning a police patrol car passing the colliery had a side window shattered by a lump of concrete, which narrowly missed a police officer inside.

The police say a short time later they clashed with about 100 men, some drunk, who were wielding heavy wooden staves and heading for the deserted colliery. There were 23 arrests and two officers were hurt slightly.

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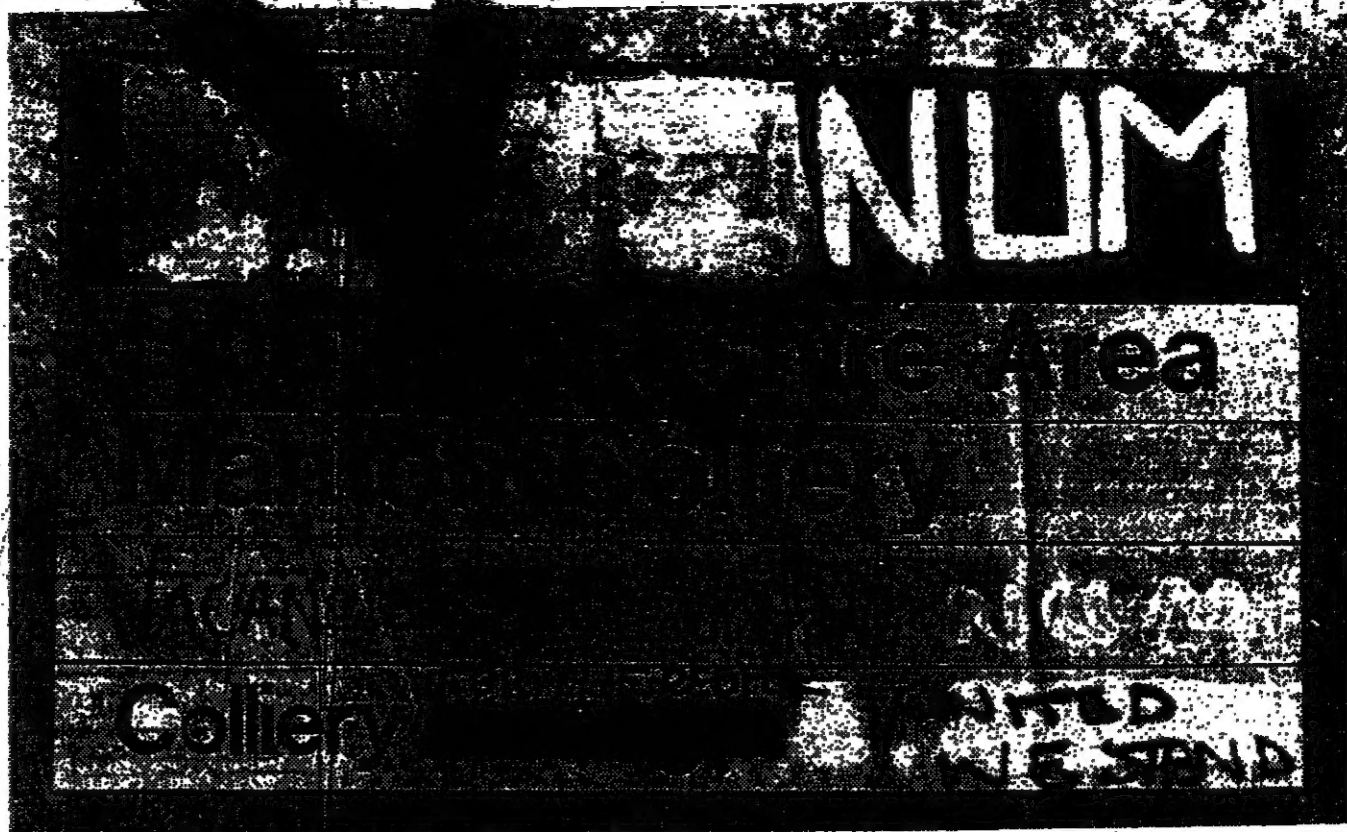
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### The miners' strike



Signs of vandalism: The Manton Colliery board showing union disdain for the working miners, and (below right) Mr Paul Chad, a traffic warden, with rocks thrown through a police car window.

Mr Griffith said: "The fact of picketing allows workers to judge the merits of a case of the facts as they know them, uninfluenced by violence or intimidation. We believe in the philosophy behind our picketing is that a man's mind is as entitled to be free from intimidation as his body is."

"It was known in the mining communities that there would be no more than half a dozen men going back to work, and when you get 1,000 pickets that is pure intimidation."

Mr Griffith said that an intimidation squad of detectives had received 600 complaints and made 100 arrests which would result in court cases.

During the weekend, police investigated six incidents, four in the village of Langold, Nottinghamshire, involving paint and paint stripper attacks on working miners' homes.

The four men who clocked on at Manton yesterday, brought the total of NUM men working in the Yorkshire coalfield, which has 56,000 workers, to 46, the highest since the strike began.

Leading article and letters, page 13

## Britain is ordered to pay for turkey ban

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Government may have to pay up to £19m in damages to French turkey farmers after a High Court decision yesterday.

Mr Justice Mann ruled that farmers were entitled to be compensated for lost business caused by an import ban imposed by Britain between September, 1981, and November, 1982, which the European Court of Justice declared illegal under the Treaty of Rome.

The Ministry of Agriculture, which originally imposed the ban on the pretext of preventing the spread of Newcastle disease, a virulent form of fowl pest, contended that the farmers were entitled only to the European court's declaration that Britain had failed to fulfil its obligations under EEC law. They could not also sue for damages.

But the judge upheld the farmers' allegation that the Government was guilty of improper action in public office, which is a ground for claiming damages.

The Solicitor-General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, QC, acting for the ministry, was given leave to appeal, and the action for damages will not be heard until the Government has decided whether to do so.

## Transplant for cystic fibrosis

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A heart-lung transplant has been performed on a 22-year-old man suffering from the inherited disease, cystic fibrosis. The operation was performed six days ago by the team working with Mr. Nagdi Yacoub, at Harefield Hospital, Middlesex.

The patient was described yesterday as making good progress. But details of the transplant had been withheld partly for fear that the news would raise false hopes for hundreds of other victims of the life-threatening condition.

There are other complications associated with cystic fibrosis. It is a condition which develops in children and adolescents, affecting the group of tissues referred to as exocrine glands.

Even if the transplant succeeds, there are no circumstances under which the procedure could become a treatment for all sufferers. The disorder is the most common serious inherited illness in Britain. One child in 2,000 births or about 400 a year, is born with the defect.

The disease causes the lungs to become congested. Regular physiotherapy is needed to keep the chest clear, both for breathing and to avoid the risk of lung infections. Great progress has been made during the past few years in keeping patients alive and active.

## Tory whip quits

Mr Douglas Hogg, Conservative MP for Grantham, has resigned as a government whip after less than 18 months. A Downing Street statement said he wanted to return to the back benches.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$10.50, Belgium \$10.50, Canada \$10.50, Denmark \$10.50, France \$10.50, Germany \$10.50, Greece \$10.50, Hong Kong \$10.50, India \$10.50, Italy \$10.50, Japan \$10.50, Korea \$10.50, Malaysia \$10.50, Mexico \$10.50, New Zealand \$10.50, Norway \$10.50, Portugal \$10.50, Singapore \$10.50, South Africa \$10.50, Sweden \$10.50, Switzerland \$10.50, Taiwan \$10.50, Thailand \$10.50, Turkey \$10.50, USA \$10.50, Yugoslavia \$10.50.

## Pit men start Soviet holiday

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr Reeves, an official of the National Union of Mineworkers, yesterday headed a party of 150 striking miners to a health resort on the Black Sea at Sochi, together with a group of 150 striking miners' families.

The party is the first of a series of trips to the Soviet Union for British miners.

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## MEP cleared on charge of obstruction

Mr Leslie Huxford, Labour MEP for Merseyside East, was cleared of obstruction outside a power station during the pit strike at St Helen's Magistrates' Court yesterday.

Five members of the National Union of Mineworkers who were with Mr Huxford were found guilty but granted an absolute discharge. The court was told that Mr Huxford and the mineworkers were arrested outside Bold Colliery power station, Merseyside.

Mr Derrick Fairclough, the magistrate, said it was possible that Mr Huxford had mistakenly thought the grass verge belonged to the Central Electricity Generating Board and was not part of the public highway.

Two striking miners who siphoned petrol from a car to use for picketing were sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment at Chesterfield magistrates' court yesterday.

The men, Colin Herbert, aged 22, of Bond Street, Staveley, and Keith Conroy, aged 24, of Lumsdale Road, Middlecroft, pleaded guilty to theft from a vehicle. They were each ordered to pay £10 costs.

The coal board's Western Region said yesterday that more than 1,000 working miners had accepted voluntary redundancy since the strike began more than six months ago.

## Equality fight in print union

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Leaders of the print union are also named in a commission investigation, but it is expected to make the required changes. The Commission's findings could lead to legal action under the Sex Discrimination Act of 1975.

Mr Keys said yesterday that he fully accepted the principle and would seek to persuade the two branches concerned.

The Sun newspaper will not appear again today as a result of the continuing dispute that started last week about the use of the word scum in an editorial on the miner's dispute.

The dispute began on Friday

## Sun dispute again prevents publication

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The dispute began on Friday

## EEC fines law 'unjust'

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

European Community law may be changed to ensure that fines imposed abroad in EEC states are payable in offenders' home countries.

The change, which could remove the risk of jail for failure to pay spot fines abroad, is to be considered by the Council of Ministers after proposals by Mr Christopher Jackson, Conservative European MP for Kent, East.

Mr Jackson sought a review after French girl was sent to prison when she could not pay a £500 fine imposed by Dover

magistrates for breach of anti-rabies laws.

The girl, Miss Silvia Mear, then aged 18, had no previous convictions, but was immediately sent to Holloway prison.

Had she been a British resident, she would have been given time to pay.

The EEC Commission has said that a convention on the payment of fines would be desirable and the President of the Parliament has asked the Commission to put formal proposals to member states.

## Clearance for DDT is withdrawn

The Government yesterday withdrew clearance for the use of DDT in pesticides, after the discovery of small residual quantities in fruit and vegetables.

Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane, a toxic contact insecticide, was once portrayed as a "miracle" chemical, to protect crops and help to eradicate insect-borne diseases.

In the 1960s, however, there was a growing realization that immense damage had been done to wildlife. There are severe restrictions on the use of DDT in the United States and most European countries, although it is widely used on the Third World.

## in shipyard workers defy police siege

and police laid siege to a gas rig occupied by workers at the Cammell shipyard at Birkenhead.

Some equipped with iron rods and climbing ladders surrounded the huge rig, the men taking part in the operation remained defiant.

One step they danced on the rig for a film crew in a helicopter.

Earlier yesterday, 12 men occupying a destroyer at the yard were treated for alleged contempt of court.

Outside the yard, a mass picket in support of the occupation was staged by northern trade unionists. But by the afternoon there were only a few pickets outside.

The 23 rebels in the rig are in CB radio communication with supporters at the yard gates and the local unemployed resource centre.

One radio message received from the rig was: "We are prepared to stay here until Christmas. We will stay for years if necessary. We are fighting for our jobs and for the future of this yard."

They have enough food to last for several months and have sealed hatches in the passageways on board the rig.

The men, all stagers at the yard, occupied the British Gas accommodation rig and the destroyer Edinburgh three months ago when they were served with redundancy notices.

Laird's have an empty order book after the completion of the two contracts. The stagers said the British Shipbuilders' yard was being deliberately starved of work to force through more job cuts.

The police operation yesterday came only hours after the midnight deadline, set by the High Court for an end to the occupation, had passed.

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Putting on the Ritz all the way to New Zealand.

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## LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE

## Support for Scargill

## Police debate

## Leader defeated

# Scargill wins support for attacks on 'state violence against miners'

Reports from Alan Wood, Bob Morgan, Sheila Beardsall, Stephen Goodwin and John Winder

Making clear that the NUM was challenging the whole concept of Mrs Thatcher's Government, Mr Arthur Scargill, the union's president, obtained, amid prolonged acclaim, the support of the Labour Party conference at Blackpool yesterday in the dispute over pit closures.

"For God's sake give your support to our membership and take us on the way to victory", he declared.

As for violence on the picket lines, Mr Scargill attacked state violence against miners, whose only crime was the desire to work and to save the industry and jobs of mining communities. He successfully commended the NUM motion reaffirming the Labour Party's commitment to the Plan for Coal, a commitment that should be in its next manifesto.

The widow of a miner, Mrs Muriel Williams from Maesteg, also got a standing ovation for a speech in which she said that miners' wives would see that miners did not starve. "The miners' wives are as determined to win as any Margaret Thatcher".

Mr Tony Benn, MP for Chesterfield and a former Secretary of State for Energy, replying to the debate, said the Government had planned the dispute years ago and had budgeted for it. The Labour Party wanted to make clear that it backed the miners all the way. The conference duly did that, with only a few heavy raised voices against both the NUM resolution and the recently published national executive statement, which Mr Benn said, did not criticize the NUM for its handling of the dispute.

Although Mr Benn asked the conference also to carry a motion calling for a freeze on all further development of Britain's nuclear power, it was thrown out in the first round vote of 3,483,000 to 2,967,000.

Mr Scargill said that for seven months, British miners, their wives and families had been involved in an historic struggle. The NUM had found itself in a position of having to defend the coal industry, its jobs and its communities against the economic insanity of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's monetarist philosophy.

The Government's decision last year to appoint Mr Ian MacGregor as chairman of the NCB was designed to provoke the NUM. This had followed a period when the Government had firmly believed it could pursue policies which would end up destroying British industry.

He claimed Mr MacGregor had butchered thousands of jobs at British Steel. The Tories and Mr MacGregor believed the same job could be done in the mining industry.

"After seven months, I say to Mr MacGregor and the Government they will not succeed. This is another war they will not win."

Nonsense was put forward by Mr MacGregor, the Government and their supporters in the media, he added.

"They constantly refer to the industry as being uneconomic and to uneconomic pits. There are no uneconomic pits - only pits deliberately starved of investment by successive governments. If that investment had been put in, they would be viable."

He said that Mr MacGregor argued about what to do with coal output. It should be given to old-age pensioners for the twilight of their lives.

Mr Scargill said that in 1974 a Plan for Coal was agreed by the Government, NCB and Mining unions, which was reaffirmed in 1977 when Mr Tony Benn was Secretary of State for Energy. In it there was no reference to closing pits on the grounds of economics.

He said Mrs Thatcher and Mr MacGregor were always referring to the business and the costs of the industry. "They never talk about the investment in human beings whose invest-

## The mineworkers' conference motion

The NUM motion carried by the conference stated: This conference pays tribute to the historic struggle of the miners in 1984 which has attracted the widest support of the trade union and labour movement and congratulates all those men and women who have contributed so magnificently to the defence of jobs, communities, trade unionism, and socialist principles.

The conference deplores the total dishonesty of the Conservative Government during the historic struggle for which it is held wholly responsible having, through the National Coal Board, deliberately violated the Plan for Coal by the declaration that 20 pits and 20,000 jobs had to go as a first instalment of their rundown of the industry.

It recognizes that this policy stems not only from their dogmatic adherence to monetarist economic policies but a determined intention to attack the NUM and the whole trade union movement by repressive legislation and an unprecedented and wholesale operation involving unlawful actions by the police, organized violence against miners, their picket lines, and their communities by means of an unconstitutional nationally controlled police force.

The conference declares that the manifesto of the next Labour government will reaffirm wholehearted commitment to the Plan for Coal and introduce an integrated energy policy based on an expanding and healthy coal industry to protect and develop jobs for our young people, making sure that technological innovations both improve working conditions for miners and actually increase and enhance their job prospects.

armed with riot gear. Yes, we have violent state violence against miners whose only crime is the desire to work, whose only crime is fighting to save our industry and jobs in the mining community. We are asking for your support. We are entitled to ask for it.

"The NUM is fighting not only for the jobs of miners but is fighting against the whole concept of this Government's economic policy, which is designed to destroy jobs and create havoc."

Mr Scargill went on: "I reject the right of any employer to destroy the jobs of miners or any other worker."

He said his union wanted an energy policy based on coal in line with previous Labour Party conference decisions. The TUC had given the NUM its support and this support was now turning into practical backing.

Seconding the NUM motion, Mr Gregory Moakes, Elmet, said that a future Labour government must depart immediately from the present mad Tory energy policies. There must be a sound commitment to coal by the Labour Party, based on the Plan for Coal, 1974.

Mr James Slater, general secretary of the National Union of Seamen, moved a motion reaffirming opposition to con-

ment is their very lives in this industry" (applause).

The NCB talked about coal output of 495 million tonnes in the next five years. After the seven-month strike, and the previous overtime ban, without one pit closed, the maximum coal output was 480m tonnes.

"There is a deliberate attempt to mislead not only the NUM but also the general public on the cost of closing pits and making miners redundant - it is as much as keeping these pits open and the jobs secure. I am sick and tired of the balance sheet mentality of this Government. We are not talking about the miners whose jobs are at risk. It is not his job to sell. The jobs belong to future generations."

"We have seen attacks on the picket lines from a state police

suction of a reactor at Sizewell and condemning the gross inefficiency of nuclear power stations."

He said that the motion was not designed to shut down the nuclear industry after Labour came to power and was not intended to commit the party to a repressive non-nuclear policy but was an attempt to meet the concern of the growing number of people about the wisdom of committing themselves to a nuclear future.

To do so they must assess what it would mean for the economy and environment. That sort of analysis has never taken place, even under a Labour government.

Ray Buckton, general secretary of Aslef, said he joined with the millions of people who applauded the miners, their wives and children who could see their communities absolutely ruined by the vicious attack from the Government.

In an appeal carried overwhelmingly by trade unionists were asked to stand by what was a basic principle of the movement - that unless there was an agreement with the union concerned do not pass official picket lines.

Mr Eric Hammond, general secretary of the electricians' union, EETPU, was hissed and booed when he said the NEC statement demonstrated what was wrong with the policy-making in the Labour Party.

"There is no attempt to analyse the real problems, underlining the conduct of this dispute, no attempt to understand why the refusal to ballot the membership had split the NUM, no call for the TUC guide on conducting disputes to be observed and, most shameful, no demand for the violence and hooliganism on the picket line to be stopped."

Mr Benn, replying for the NEC, recommended acceptance of both motions. He said that the Government had planned the dispute years ago.

The Government had tried to use the DHSS to starve the miners into submission and had failed. They had tried to use the NCB to bribe the miners with redundancy pay. They had used riot police and mounted police to harass and assault miners to seek to criminalize those on whose skill and dedication the future of the country depended.

The Government had tried to use the magistracy by manipulating the bail conditions and to punish people who had never been put up for trial by imposing restrictive bail conditions.

"If they would build on Labour's plan for coal, expand the industry and give miners equal power to decide about the future of the industry this strike would end tonight."

"We need a socialist integrated energy policy. We need all fuel in common ownership. People are entitled to have enough heat and light at home at prices they can afford to pay. Fuel is a service, and not a business. That is what a socialist energy policy is about."

"The miners are engaged in a titanic struggle and have transformed the prospects for our party. The union has reminded us of the old principle - you do not cross a picket line."

The hopes of millions who had nothing to do with the mining industry were focused on the strike.

It was a mistake to think the miner's struggle was an opportunity for overthrowing the democratic institutions which the Labour movement had done more to build than any other group in Britain.

"We are struggling to defend democracy, as in the GLC and the Met Counties, to defend the jobs and services that Parliament created for us, to defend civil and human rights, to defeat the Tory party and to elect a Labour government and transform society."

The NUM resolution and NEC statement were agreed to and the NUS motion rejected in a card vote.

Wrong strategy, page 14  
Leading article, page 15



Mr Knapp (left), the railwaymen's leader; Mrs Clwyd, MP; and Mr Ray Buckton, of ASLEF, speaking in yesterday's debates (Photographs: Bill Warhurst).



## Outlaw police from industrial disputes, Labour urged

Three motions expressing concern about the use of the police in industrial disputes, were passed by conference. One, which included a proposal for the police to be accountable to local authority committees for day-to-day policing policies, was carried by 4,117,000 to 2,485,000 on a card vote against opposition by the national executive committee.

A fourth motion concerning the police and the Criminal Evidence Bill was carried on a show of hands.

The police must not be used as an escort agency for scabs and blacklegs, Mr Paul Whetton, striking Nottinghamshire miner, said in Newark moving a motion condemning police violence against the miners.

The motion called on the next Labour government to bring in laws to make the police play no part in industrial disputes and to disband special patrol groups. It should also abolish political surveillance and telephone tapping of union members and ban the use of riot gear, mounted police, and dogs during strikes. It called for a completely independent investigative body to look at complaints against the police.

Mr Whetton said he had been living in a police state since going on strike on March 12. He said: "We understand some people are worried about the call to exact legislation to make the police play no part in industrial disputes. We understand normal policing must be carried out."

We do not accept that the police should be used as an escort agency for scabs and blacklegs."

He added: "This is not just about mines. It is about what is going to happen to you when Maggie Thatcher comes for your job."

He told delegates that a boy aged 15, who objected to seeing his father arrested a third time, was arrested himself and handcuffed. When he arrived at the police station, his hands and wrists were bleeding.

"This is violence, this is organized state violence, and we are not going to stand for it."

Mr Mitchell Upford, Kingston-upon-Hull, East, seconded the resolution, claiming that the Government was trying to depict miners as criminals.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, MP for Manchester, Gorton, and Opposition spokesman on

home affairs, said the real violence had been committed by the person who deliberately provoked the coal strike: Mrs Thatcher.

There was no democratic accountability, much less democratic control of the police. There should be a public inquiry into police action during the miners' dispute and the Police Criminal Evidence Bill would have to be repealed.

Ms Jo Richardson, MP for Barking, replying for the national executive committee, started her speech by holding up a large photograph which, she said, showed a policeman batoning a woman. She said she would leave it in front of her so that members of the public not allowed to see it by the Tory press would have the opportunity of looking at it.

There was no doubt that the tactics of the police in relation to the miners' strike were dictated by Mrs Thatcher, she said.

It was Mrs Thatcher who had decided that there should be a national police force. It was her hand which reached out and clouted the shoulders of the striking miners and it was her hand which wielded the police baton and the riot shield.

Mr Evans said opponents of the change argued that the constituency party management committee was the only proper body to determine the record of an MP and that widening the franchise would enable the media to determine who should be the Labour candidate.

He said: "I find that argument fundamentally elitist towards ordinary party members."

Ms May Quinlan, Eltham, moved a composite motion opposing the proposed constitutional change because it would weaken the link between the industrial and political wings of the party, undermine the accountability of Labour MPs, and enormously increase the dangers of local divisions.

Mr John Evans, MP for St Helens North, was sporadically heckled as he moved the NEC amendment enabling constituencies to involve the whole of their membership in the reselection of MPs.

He said the change was a simple one that would give those constituency parties with

## Tory housing policy comes under fire

The Labour Party's new policy committee on housing will present proposals to next year's conference. Mrs Ann Clwyd, MP for Cynon Valley, stated for the national executive, in asking delegates to accept three long composite resolutions containing a host of ideas.

Mrs Clwyd, and others in the debate, strongly attacked Conservative housing policy and particularly its spending cuts which amounted to three quarters of all the Government's public expenditure cuts since it took office.

Housing, she said, had been affected worse than any other sector. Standards had been scrapped and private builders were putting up more and more little boxes as they tried to build down market.

The first composite motion carried called for a housing policy which offered a right to choose both to those who wanted to rent and those who wanted to buy. Although the right to rent was central to a social policy, it called, among other things, for parity of financial treatment between tenants and the right in certain circumstances to instruct authorities to acquire homes to rent where they could not offer satisfactory homes from stock.

The second motion, moved by the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians, called for the "right to buy" provisions of the housing act, 1980 and 1984, to be repealed, although it believed that a future Labour government committed to expanding high-standard rented housing could be justified in reintroducing measures to give tenants the right to buy the homes they occupied. Sales should be at vacant possession value and without discount.

The third motion urged parity of financial treatment between tenants, positive encouragement of housing investment, and recognition of the severe deterioration of low and high-rise system-built properties. On what the government should accept its financial responsibility so that the councils affected could proceed with the work urgently.

Mrs Clwyd said that decisions about the sale of council houses should be taken by individual authorities. They

should not be forced to sell if they thought it would badly affect housing or homeless people in their area.

They had meant well with the industrialized building of the 1960s but the voices of the people who were to live in these homes was never heard. They must consult and listen and that meant strengthening tenants' rights, giving power to tenants, and support to tenants' associations and housing cooperatives.

She added: "We say whatever people decide to do, whether to build or to rent, poses no problem of principle for socialists. We want to see an adequate supply of houses in both sectors. Housing must be put back to the top of our agenda."

Under the next Labour government there would be need for a sustained programme of housing investment to produce good quality housing for all, to tackle the problems of design and housing defects, and to put building workers back to work.

They wanted to give people a real choice between renting and owning at a price they could afford. Since the profit motive ruled in housing, she added, they needed to tackle and take more public control of finance and the building industry.

Mr John Battle (Leeds North-West) said the party had to put more emphasis on rights and choice. Councils would have to buy houses on the private market in order to make them available for renting.

Mr Charlie Kelly, a member of the executive council of Ugaft, said that while they supported the right of individuals to buy their own home, what they objected to under Tory policy was the inadequate provision of housing and the preferential terms offered to those claiming the right to buy. The Cabinet appeared to be backing the black economy as the means of regenerating investment.

Mr John Fraser, MP for Northwood, opposition spokesman on housing, said the resolutions emphasized that people wanted variety in housing, choice, and good quality. There was no better time than now to reinvest in housing and prevent cities from falling apart.

The left's move came as leading right wingers planned speeches in which they are to set out reservations about the new policy. Mr James Callaghan, the former Prime Minister, is to address a fringe meeting in Blackpool tonight called by the Labour Defence and Disarmament Group in which he is expected to voice opposition to the removal of American bases.

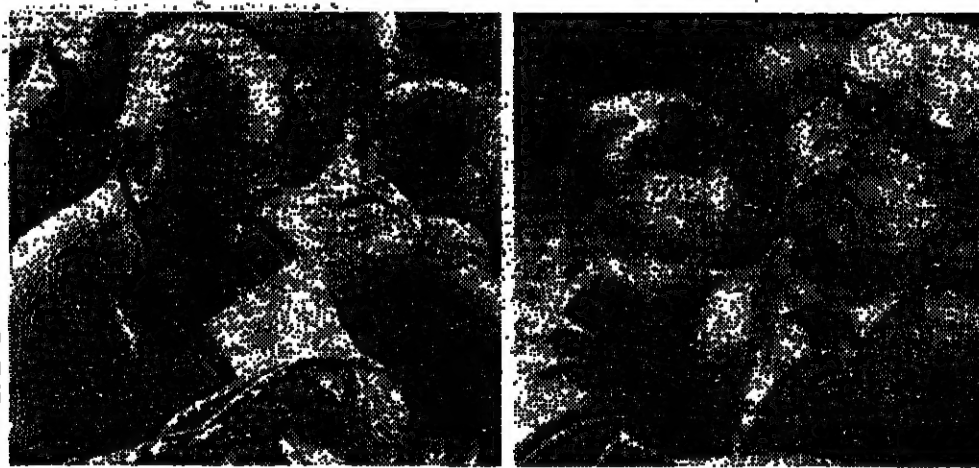
The Transport and General Workers' Union is helping the leadership to resist left-wing demands to cut defence spending by a third, to the average level of that of Britain's European allies, within the lifetime of a Labour government.

Mr Ron Todd, the general secretary-elect of the union, will move the main defence motion in the debate tomorrow, which will support a reduction in military spending but without making any commitment on the level. The change in the union's posture since last year's conference is regarded as highly significant by the party leadership.

It was confirmation that the leadership's hopes that the defence statement might end internal damaging arguments about defence and allow the party to go forward to the next election with what it has called an intellectually coherent policy, are unlikely to be realized.

The vote led to complaints by the centre right of irresponsibility by the left and of policy agreements almost as soon as they were made. The centre right has regarded the strength of the new statement as its commitment to Nato, which they believe would have been jeopardized by support for the motion.

Mr Benn and his colleagues



Old guard: Mr Ian Mikardo, MP, and Mr Michael Foot, former party leader.

## Further industrial action threatened on railways

Mr Jimmy Knapp, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, said that the railways would reimpose their industrial action if weekend reports of intended line closures proved correct.

"Railway workers are no longer a pushover and we are prepared to stand and fight to preserve our rail network," Mr Knapp said in opening the transport debate.

Delegates passed without opposition a motion repeating Labour Party support for an integrated public transport system and called for an end to the rundown of investment.

Opposing any sale of National Bus Company subsidiaries, the motion also instructed the party's national executive to "declare in forthright terms that all assets privatised will be renationalized on election of the next Labour government without any ensuing profit."

Mr Knapp, referring to weekend press reports of possible line closures, said the NUR

had suspended its industrial action on the future of the industry because there were no plans to close railways before 1989.

"I say to the chairman of the British Railways Board, if that story is true and you do intend to close railway lines then the action will be immediately reimposed."

Mr John Prescott, MP for Hull east and shadow spokesman on transport, said British Airways, the world's largest international schedule carrier, was threatened by the loss of some of its routes.

He told City interests waiting for the privatization of British Airways, that those routes belonged to the nation and a Government would return them to a public sector carrier without any requirement to pay compensation.

Mr Charles Turnock, NUR, on behalf of the national executive, urged support for the motion.

## Heffer offers full support to the miners

The conference reserved some of its loudest applause for support offered for the miners by Mr Eric Heffer, chairman of the national executive, in his opening speech.

He said the miners were fighting not just for themselves and their jobs but also for the entire trade union and labour movement and deserved support.

"We are all concerned about violence on the picket lines. At the very beginning of the dispute, the NEC said that the mass use of police on picket duty was provocative."

He recalled photographs of a young woman being hit with a baton by a policeman on a horse and added: "Unnecessary violence by the state against people who are not criminals cannot be good for the future stability of our country."

The response to the NEC's appeal for financial aid from constituency parties and affiliated organizations had been magnificent and they supported the miners because unemployment was a crime against individuals and society as a whole.

He called for resistance to the judge's decision on Friday in the National Union of Mineworkers case, saying that it had been a political judgment. If ever there had been a time the Labour Party and trade unions had needed each other it was the present, with the Government using its anti-trade union legislation and mem-



Eric Heffer: 'fighting for entire movement'

ment to weaken and depress the condition of working people.

At certain times in the history of the movement the industrial struggle had taken precedence and at others the political struggle had been all-important. Today, with a reactionary Thatcher Government, both industrial and political action were essential.

When back in power, Labour must

repeal all anti-trade union legislation and bring in its own laws to restore and extend trade union rights and introduce democratic management into industries.

Police action against the miners and Greenham women had shown that civil liberties were at risk. There were those in the Government who would like to see a national police force which had no responsibility or accountability to elected local authority committees.

In an attack on the Government as "Mrs Thatcher's own creation" becoming more and more centralist and authoritarian in character, he said: "We are witnessing not the fascism of Hitler and Mussolini, nor the military dictatorship of a Pinochet or a Franco, but the creation of a sort of controlled democracy, a sort of top-hatted fascism, a mixture of Thatcher's Victorian values and modernistic techniques, and Orwellian big-sisterism, where the workers are kept as they believe in their proper place, the bottom of the heap."

"This is very much the ugly face of Conservatism which tramples on the more responsible values of the one-nation Macmillanites."

The Social Democratic Party, with David Owen as leader, was not the Labour Party Mark II but the Conservative Party Mark II, while the Liberal defence policy was catching up on Labour's.

## Today's debates

The conference will debate today: the National Health Service, social security, and this afternoon, Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Party, will make his speech to be followed by debates on finance and freedom of information.



## Clergy challenge Archbishop on need for belief in Virgin Birth

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, has been challenged by a group of clergy in the North-east to state whether belief in the fact of the Virgin Birth and the Resurrection represented by the "empty tomb" are necessary to the Church of England. The North-East Diocesan Evangelical Fellowship adopted a statement at its meeting last month which called on Dr Habgood to clarify remarks he made before the consecration of Professor David Jenkins as Bishop of Durham.

Dr Habgood had apparently driven a wedge between doctrine and historical fact, the statement said. They have drawn up three questions: whether a man to be consecrated as a bishop may be agnostic about the Virgin Birth and the Resurrection; whether he believes in it; and may he treat these beliefs as optional for the church, even if he holds them himself?

They state they are not "talking about the standing of individuals in the sight of God", but "what teachings and beliefs are compatible with being a bishop in the Church of England".

### Bishop's reply to Minister

## Government accused of not caring

The following is the text of a letter from the Bishop of Durham, the Rt Rev David Jenkins, to Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, about his remarks on the miners' dispute.

Dear Mr Walker,

Thank you for your reasoned and informative letter of the 24th September. I greatly appreciate both the courtesy and the compassion you express. I am glad, too, of the opportunity for calm but urgent discussion between Christians about the frighteningly difficult problems which we all face, and about how our faith should interact with our practical and political decisions and stances.

The difficulties and differences between us seem to me to stem principally from two things. Firstly, I do not doubt your personal concern, nor your intentions, nor the value of many of the measures of which you write. Unfortunately, the Government to which you belong does not seem to care for the steadily increasing number of people who are unemployed, and are otherwise marginalised in society, and does not seem to care that it does not seem to care. (You probably saw Mr Pym's gently cautious words on the subject in *The Times* of September the 19th in an article headed "Miners: Now for the Human Touch".)

On all the statistical tables known to me it seems a simple matter of fact that government's fiscal measures consistently improve the lot of (to use titles from one such table) "senior managers" and "company directors" while causing losses to "jobless men with families" and "semi-skilled workers".

This seems a gratuitous refusal to care and a rather insulting determination to make sure the already underprivileged bear an even greater share of the cost of our undoubted economic difficulties, and of our undoubtedly required greater economic realism. It is also difficult to believe that the Government does care for all the members of our society when cuts are repeatedly made on those services which are of particular value to the poor, but money can always be found for military adventures in the Falklands, pretending to be still a great power in defence matters or keeping up the police forces. I do not say that we can do without either defence or police expenditure, but the emphasis does seem to be persistently on non-caring and aggressive directions.

This leads to the second principal point. I agree with you that Mr Scargill's personal intransigence has played, and does play a very considerable part in keeping the situation over the mines deadlocked. I would guess that quite a few miners would like to see a situation rapidly developing in which they could do without Mr Scargill's intransigence.

But it is necessary to ask why Mr Scargill gets the (by no means complete, but very strong) support that he does. The answer surely lies on the one hand in the general economic situation. Redundancy payments are all very well, and the redundancy arrangements of the NCB may well be the envy of threatened workers elsewhere, but redundancy means both no further jobs for the redundant, and no jobs for their children.

Communities and a whole way of life are swept away at a time when there are no alternatives elsewhere. This is a vital difference between closing mines in the 1960s and early 1970s and closing them now. I am sure that many miners and their families remain doggedly committed to the strike not for money, but for a way of life. Whatever Mr Scargill may be after, they are seeking not revolution, but a future for something they have valued like life itself.

Then, on the other hand, Mr

Scargill's intransigence is immensely reinforced by a government style which seems to make a virtue of confrontation. I had hoped, when I first drafted by Euthronement sermon two or three weeks before the event, that the page on the miners' strike could be either withdrawn or completely rewritten. But the Prime Minister's remarks on *The Jimmy Young Programme*, reported in the papers of September the 20th, convinced me that, with great sadness and perplexity, I could not alter a word. We seem to have intransigence confronted by intransigence, and this, I believe, is the death both of true politics and true community.

You yourself make a splendid point towards the end of your letter about compassion and efficiency. Of course, compassion does not get you very far in dealing with the problems of millions. We must have efficient production of the means of compassion. But surely this implies negotiating with and not destroying communities, groupings, and organisations which have grown up over the years, and which represent, however imperfectly, the legitimate aspirations and hopes of real and valued members of our society.

It means developing a politics of the possible, which carefully and compassionately considers the cost of any particular campaign in regard to the overall aims of the political struggle.

If the Government is really prepared to contemplate the pit strike going on for more than a year then it seems to me to have lost all sense of what a community is and what a country is. Something must be done speedily to stop communities tearing themselves apart, to stop bully boys in both mining pickets and police forces calling the tune, to stop ordinary families coming near to starving, and to stop the mining industry destroying itself.

A government should be strong enough to be able temporarily to accept a compromise or check to its overall policies for the sake of local communities and particular persons. Such compromises would add to, not detract from, its authority.

You ask me what I would do if Mr Scargill continues to refuse to negotiate on the one issue he says is not negotiable. I think I should challenge him to a "cooling-off" period. Let both (all) sides recognize the status quo at the moment. Where pits are effectively working leave them to work effectively; where pits are not working leave them not working - without either picketing to change the position or police to make sure that very small numbers of men have "their right to work recognized".

Leave the communities around the pits alone, and let them make their own peace with local police and local miners. Meanwhile, resume all possible negotiations, using all parties that are available or willing, and abandon the pretence that it is a matter between the NCB and the workers, and not a government matter.

If the strike continues it is certain that miners, government and country will have been defeated. It is, therefore, surely, in the last analysis, up to the Government to consider what concession it can possibly make to break this dreadfully threatening deadlock, and free us all for further chances to tackle out problems without confrontation politics at every turn.

As you say: "We must do our best to assess who is the true enemy". I think that Christian insight would encourage us to recognize that part of the enemy is always within ourselves, and that no "they", "he" or "she" should ever be treated as the total enemy, and the sole enemy. This does not make for simplicity of party slogans. But I think it does make for a compassion which, if exercised politically, might greatly add to efficiency and hope.

Yours sincerely,

David Durham

## China's anniversary celebrations

# Smart turnout but aging weapons in parade

From David Bonavia, Peking

Tanks and missiles rumbled through central Peking yesterday while balloons and carrier pigeons soared aloft in the city's most extravagant celebrations in modern times.

Mr Deng Xiaoping, the country's unquestioned civilian and military leader, in a speech from above the Tian An Men Gate, called on the armed forces to strengthen national defence "in the seriously deteriorating international situation".

Mr Deng, who is 80, said the rejuvenation of China, including Taiwan, "is rooted in the hearts of all descendants of the Yellow Emperor" (the legendary founder of the Chinese nation).

"We stand for the settlement of international disputes through negotiation, just as we have settled the question of Hong Kong with the United Kingdom through negotiation", Mr Deng said.

In a parade believed to have cost the equivalent of several hundred million pounds, China showed an array of military technology based on that of the 1960s. One intercontinental ballistic missile of about 100 ft in length was believed to be capable of reaching Moscow.

Last week some military sources suggested that the ICBM in the parade might be simply a cardboard replica. Except for the ICBM China's

military power was shown to be overwhelmingly conventional. Obsolete Soviet-type bombers led flocks of jet fighters trailing coloured smoke. In land-based technology the emphasis was on tanks and lighter vehicles with recoilless rifles and rocket launchers. Surface-to-air and surface-to-surface missiles were shown in command of both land and naval forces.

The spectators particularly applauded the women's military nursing corps in new, "proletarian" character of the armed forces.

Guards battalions showed a first rate marching style in new, smart uniforms with peaked caps.

Numerous floats showed off China's achievements in science, education, culture and sport, including medallists from the Los Angeles Olympics. School-children stoically stood to attention for three hours or danced with coloured paper wreaths.

A large formation of peasants, some of them wearing western-style two-piece suits, others playing a raucous traditional wind instrument, were prominently placed in the parade. They were preceded by a banner praising the past few years' reforms in agriculture.

Leading members of the Communist Party and the Government accompanied Mr Deng on the rostrum above the former main entrance to the Imperial City.

All public transport stopped and the whole of central Peking was blocked off to traffic and pedestrians. The main viewpoints for the parade were reserved for foreigners and members of the Chinese armed forces, while ordinary people could watch on television. Only some tens of thousands of people lined the pavements at each end of the route.

Long-length skirts and black boots, the first Chinese women soldiers to come out of trousers since the early 1960s.

Military parades in Peking ended when the Cultural Revolution in 1966 touched off a movement to play down smartness and enhance the



Founding father: A bust of Mao Tse-tung towers above children during the thirty-fifth anniversary parade.

## Chun takes North's gifts with pinch of salt

From David Watts, Tokyo

After a weekend of unprecedented contact between North and South Korea, realism returned to the peninsula yesterday in a tough armed forces day speech by President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea.

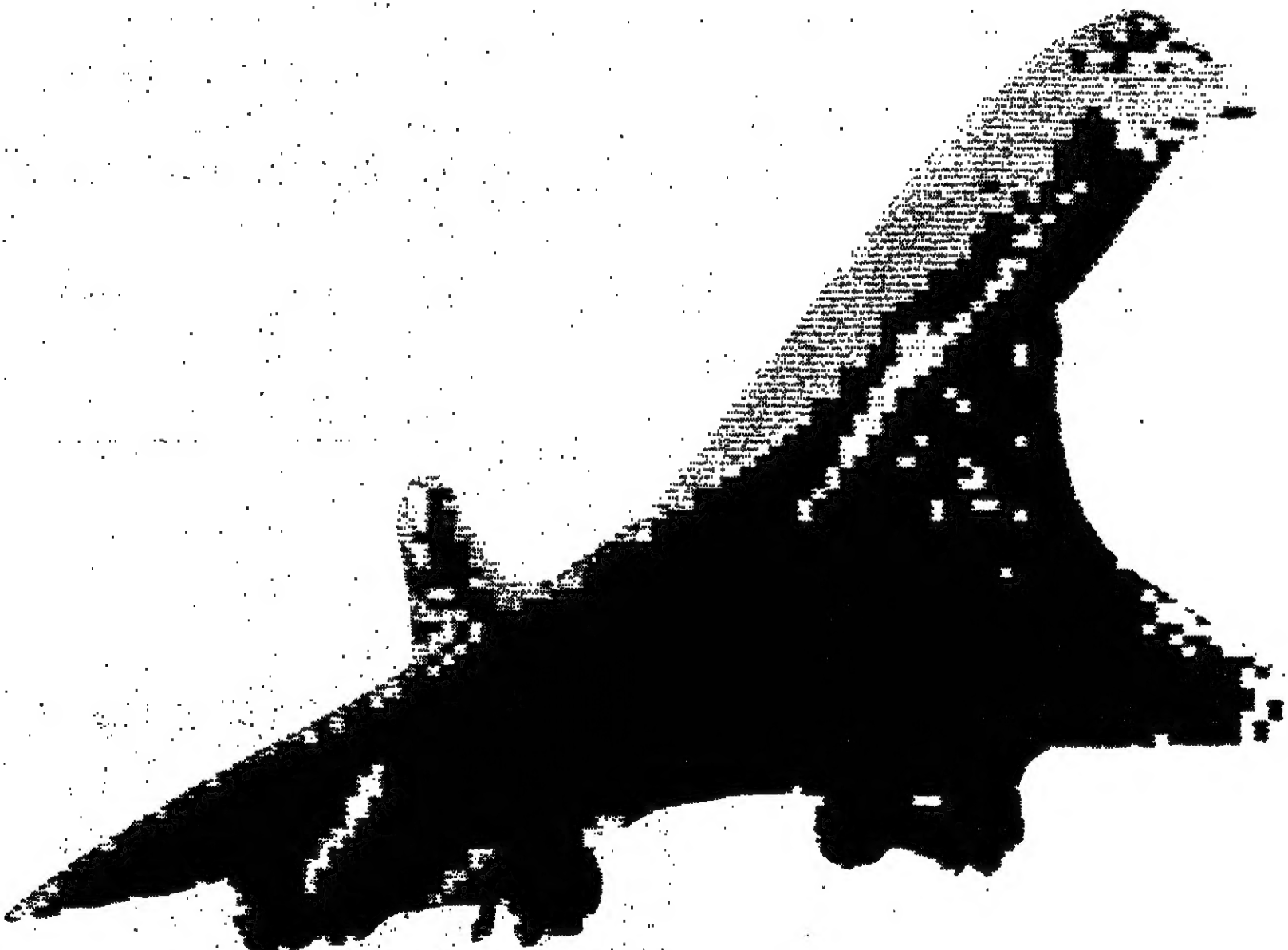
Reviewing a massive display of South Korea's military capability, both imported and domestically produced, the President warned that the North's new, more friendly approach must be treated with scepticism, especially as it has recently been strengthening its forces at the demilitarized zone.

Even as delayed flood relief supplies were still being unloaded at South Korean ports, the President gave warning that Pyongyang's peace offensive must be treated with caution. "In view of our past experience we cannot entirely free ourselves from concern and misgivings. As fellow Koreans we sincerely hope that there are no wicked schemes or ulterior motives lurking behind their smiles," he said.

South Korea claims that the North has recently been deploying large tank units, long-range artillery and guided missiles near the demilitarized zone.

With Home-produced missiles, anti-aircraft guns, armoured personnel carriers and self-propelled howitzers on display, the South's strength was left in no doubt.

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## 229 rural schools to close

By Colin Hughes

One in 10 primary schools in England and Wales has fewer than 50 pupils, but 229 of these will close this year, according to figures published today by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

The small schools are almost all in rural areas. Education authorities are also closing some larger primary schools. Of those with more than 400 pupils, 58 will close this year.

The changing pattern in school sizes is reversed in secondary schools. Only one in

20 now has more than 1,500 pupils, and a further 47 of those will close this year.

At the other end of the secondary spectrum, the falling pupil population means that there will be 30 more secondary schools with fewer than 400 pupils this year.

The institute's figures show that the number of pupils has fallen by 15.5 per cent since 1977.

Education Statistics, 1984-5. Estimates, CIPFA, 3, Robert St, London, WC2, 214.

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## Problems mount for German Chancellor

## Nonchalant Kohl facing renewed attacks on his style of leadership

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Chancellor Helmut Kohl began his third year in office yesterday as an election setback and a fierce attack from his long-standing rival, Herr Franz Josef Strauss, once again raised questions about his leadership and the effectiveness of his fissionary coalition government.

In an outspoken and clearly calculated attack, Herr Strauss, the Bavarian Prime Minister whom Herr Kohl has striven to keep out of his Cabinet, drew up a critical balance at the weekend of the Government's record. He criticized Bonn's policies on Europe, the lack of new direction in foreign policy and what he called the undue influence of the Free Democrats in the Cabinet.

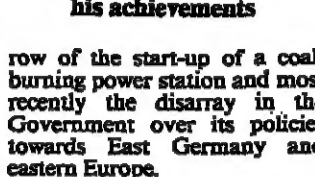
His attacks, highlighting the chronic bickering between the two junior partners in the coalition, caused particular resentment in Bonn both for their timing and for the way they identified the Chancellor with the hapless Free Democrats, whose electoral unpopularity has now jeopardized the party's very existence.

The Strauss outburst, motivated as much by the veteran politician's frustration at being thwarted in his ambition to play a big role in the Government as by his calculation that the centre-right coalition is in serious trouble, coincided with the rebuff voters in North Rhine-Westphalia gave the Christian Democrats in Sunday's local elections.

Herr Kohl has reacted with characteristic nonchalance, seeking to play down these latest setbacks to his leadership. But friends and commentators have been making it plain to him that this determination to "sit out" the various crises that have beset his Government in recent months carries the risk that his strong nerves and unflappability, long seen as an asset in his political style, are increasingly being taken by the electorate as signs of weakness and lack of political imagination.

The first two years have certainly brought setbacks that have undermined Herr Kohl's promise of moral and spiritual renewal, and have reflected not only on the Chancellor but on his ministers and the coalition's

Herr Kohl: Proud of his achievements



Herr Kohl: Proud of his achievements

row of the start-up of a coal-burning power station and most recently the disarray in the Government over its policies towards East Germany and eastern Europe.

These setbacks have been magnified in many people's eyes by Herr Kohl's relaxed style of leadership, which has allowed controversies within the Government, such as those over immigration and law and order, to develop into damaging public differences between ministers, their aides and coalition party officials.

There have also been accusations that Herr Kohl's staff in the Chancellery have not been up to the job of keeping him in the look-out for possible trouble, or developing a proper long-term political programme and that he has not been fully in command of his brief at such politically testing occasions as European summit meetings.

Against this, however, must be set the success of the Kohl Government, in particular of

Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the Economics Minister, in restoring economic confidence, bringing the budget under control and reducing inflation to 1.6 per cent, the lowest for 16 years.

The Chancellor has also, until the recent Soviet campaign against West Germany, achieved remarkable success in continuing and developing relations with East Germany. He has done so in the teeth of barely concealed mistrust from the right-wing of his own party, but has won the confidence of most of his countrymen, including the opposition Social Democrats, who concede that this has been a solid achievement.

Herr Kohl himself takes pride in two things, both of which he sees in a historical context as being important to West Germany in the long-term: the stationing of Nato missiles in the Federal Republic last autumn and the continued deepening of the friendship with France. Herr Kohl regards the first as a vital test of German reliability and good faith towards its allies.

The second represents for Herr Kohl the continuation of the policies of Dr Konrad Adenauer, whom he regards as his political mentor, which the Chancellor believes are fundamental to German security and anchoring in the Western alliance and its ability to bring about the unification of Europe.

After two years it is clear to the German electorate that Herr Kohl is not the intellectual or statesman of world rank that his predecessor Herr Helmut Schmidt was. But Herr Kohl does have an instinctive political feel for the mood of the country and for the provincial virtues and values he embodies in his own person. And it is this feel which has enabled him in many crises to withstand the withering critical blasts from the left-of-centre intellectual newspapers and carry out policies that have proved popular with the ordinary man in the street.

Herr Kohl's advisers concede that more should now be done to ensure the smooth running of his Government. They have urged him to take more seriously the charges that he is a "do-nothing" Chancellor.

**Fugitives ejected by Americans**

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

The American Embassy in East Berlin refused to comment on a report in the latest edition of *Der Spiegel*, that embassy staff had formally ejected an East German and his family seeking refuge there in June and that they had been subsequently arrested.

The weekly news magazine said that Dr Bernd Schnappauf, aged 38, his wife and two sons had gone first to the West German Mission to seek asylum.

They then went to the American Embassy, where officials tried to persuade them to leave. When Dr Schnappauf threatened to commit suicide, he was seized and carried out in front of the building, where he was promptly arrested together with his wife.

## Mafia not finished despite crackdown

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Signor Luigi Scalfaro, the Italian Minister of the Interior, flew to the United States yesterday for high level talks on fighting drug traffic, giving warning that last weekend's massive crackdown did not mean the Mafia was finished.

"Don't think the old evil has disappeared," he told reporters at the airport.

The crackdown, which he will discuss in detail in the United States, was based on the wide-ranging confessions of Tommaso Bus-

cetta, a leading Mafia figure.

One result of Buscetta's revelations was the issue of 366 warrants of arrests in what is seen to be the biggest and most convincing action yet taken against the Sicilian Mafia. Police in the United States are also following up details.

He was extradited in July from Brazil where he was head of a drug trafficking organization aimed at the United States and Europe.

## Lange sets out nuclear provisos

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

New Zealand's new Labour Government will demand certain guarantees that visiting warships have no nuclear materials on board before allowing them into port, the Prime Minister, Mr David Lange, said yesterday.

A ban could be imposed if the ships carried a nuclear power plant or weapons, he said at the end of a four-day official visit to Britain.

Mr Lange, a political unknown before he swept to power, defeating Sir Robert Muldoon, over two months ago, admitted that there was concern in Washington over his stance.

But the Americans had promised not to exert economic pressure on his Government to change its position. The Labour administration in Australia had shown understanding.

Mrs Thatcher, over lunch at Chequers on Sunday, had explained to him Britain's policy on nuclear weapons without entering into an argument.

Mr Lange also made clear that the "nuclear" war time might be different. "I can give no assurances on what might happen".

Meanwhile he hoped that agreement with the Americans over port visits could be reached before next July's meeting of the Azzur pact members - Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

Leading article, page 15

## Wine and spending hold up EEC deal

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

West Germany and Britain joined forces in Luxembourg yesterday to try to force their EEC partners to cut back on high spending and wine.

The finance council was told in no uncertain terms by Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the West German minister, that there was no way he could agree to spend extra money on the Community this year or next if it did not draw up rules for controlling the way the money was spent.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chequers-attached wholeheartedly. The Agriculture Council was told by Herr Hans Kohl, the West German minister, that surplus wine production should only qualify for a third of the Community price when it was sold. Mr Michael Jopling, the British minister, thought much the same.

Both sets of ministers were meant to negotiate through the fine texts of budget and wine control in time for study by

foreign ministers of the Community who fly in to Luxembourg today to pursue their seemingly endless negotiations on financial reform and on terms for Spanish and Portuguese entry to the Community.

But both negotiations bogged down in the fine print. On the budget side the main stumbling block was the French and Danish worry that any agreement on controlling the budget would have the effect of changing Community law.

On the wine side the main obstacle was Italian and Greek refusal to accept any kind of production threshold, which all other countries believe to be essential to stop the flood of low quality wine, which this year will cost the Community around £600m.

Both finance and farm ministers last night cancelled their arrangements to return home, and prepared to argue into the night.

## Post-UN gloom in Moscow

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Soviet officials said yesterday that President Reagan had "thrown down the gauntlet" by refusing to change his position during talks with Mr Andrei Gromyko. But other Soviet sources said Moscow was willing to "do a deal" with Mr Reagan in the long term, provided that he gave ground.

Sources said the Politburo was now considering its next move on arms control "very, very seriously" following Mr Gromyko's return to Moscow on Sunday.

The Soviet press has taken a gloomy view of Mr Gromyko's talks in New York and Washington, in contrast to the relatively optimistic comments of Reagan Administration officials. Mr Robert MacFarlane, the president's National Security Adviser, suggested that arms control talks could resume within months.

Diplomats said in Moscow that Mr Gromyko had at least resumed the Soviet-American dialogue at a high level, and Soviet comment could have been worse. Tass said on Mr Gromyko's return that he would maintain contact with Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, as and when necessary.

Neither Tass nor Pravda has, however, made any positive assessment of the state of East-West relations after Mr Gromyko's trip to the United States, and the press has continued to attack Mr Reagan as aggressive and militaristic. "It is up to Mr Reagan to show that he can be trusted and can be flexible," one Soviet source said. "It is for the Americans to make concessions."

Diplomats said that Moscow wanted Mr Reagan to translate his promise of restraint at the United Nations into a concrete agreement to a moratorium on space weapons testing.

Mr Gromyko has already reported to senior Kremlin leaders, and will make a formal report to the Politburo on Thursday afternoon.

Sources said the Politburo would echo Mr Gromyko's demand for deeds not words from Mr Reagan.

Leading article, page 15

## Mintoff in surprise UK visit

By Our Foreign Staff

Mr Dom Mintoff, Prime Minister of Malta, arrives in Britain today for a surprise visit, arranged at his own request.

He will see Mrs Margaret Thatcher tomorrow, as well as Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

Not even the Maltese High Commission knew details of the visit last night, although Whitehall sources said that "bilateral matters" as well as trade and tourism were on the agenda.

It will probably be Mr Mintoff's last official visit as Prime Minister. Informed sources say he will relinquish both that post and the leadership of the Malta Labour Party on October 8, and will first announce his decision at a party rally on Saturday. His successor will be Dr Carmelo Mifsud Bonnici, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education.

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It will probably be Mr Mintoff's last official visit as Prime Minister. Informed sources say he will relinquish both that post and the leadership of the Malta Labour Party on October 8, and will first announce his decision at a party rally on Saturday. His successor will be Dr Carmelo Mifsud Bonnici, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education.

Mr Dom Mintoff, Prime Minister of Malta, arrives in Britain today for a surprise visit, arranged at his own request.

He will see Mrs Margaret Thatcher tomorrow, as well as Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

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Bitter taste: Waitresses and cooks employed by a Munich innkeeper, Richard Suessmeier, marching to protest against the closing of his beer tent at the Munich Oktoberfest. Municipal authorities alleged that Herr Suessmeier, contemplating a glass of his own brew on the right, has employed 23 illegal Yugoslav immigrants in his tent.

## Charges against three on Durban sit-in dropped

The prospect of an early end to the drama at the British consulate in Durban, where six political dissidents are sheltering from the South African security police, receded yesterday when legal charges were withdrawn that might have required three to them to appear in a Durban magistrate's court today.

Three of the six, Mr. George Sewpersad and Mr. J. Naidoo, the president and vice-president of the Natal Indian Congress, and Mr. Mewa Ramgobin, another senior NIC official, were among more than 40 people facing charges arising out of a demonstration last November in Durban.

The Attorney-General of Natal unexpectedly withdrew charges against all the accused yesterday, and a related court appearance scheduled for today fell away. Had the three consulate fugitives failed to appear, the court could have issued a warrant for their arrest, and thus possibly changed their diplomatic and legal status.

Britain has argued that it is entitled, under the Vienna Convention, to afford the "Durban Six" sanctuary on humanitarian grounds because they are threatened with detention without trial and have not been charged with any specific offence. The British claim to have been unaware until a few days ago of the charges now dropped.

The next step in the legal tangle over the six is a Supreme Court ruling, expected sometime this week, on their appeal against the validity of the detention order issued against them early last month by the Minister of Law and Order. The six say he has offered no specific reasons for wishing to detain them and challenge him to prefer specific charges.

Meanwhile, Mr. R. F. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, has issued a strong warning to all foreign governments that any embassies here which grant sanctuary to the six should be forced to leave the British consulate, will be held responsible for "the continuation of an illegal act".

The South African Government would regard even sympathetic consideration of a request for sanctuary to be an encouragement to commit an illegal act, Mr. Botha declared. His remarks were prompted by the disclosure that lawyers

acting for the six had sent telegrams at the weekend to the American, French, Dutch and West German embassies here asking for sanctuary if they were turned out by the British.

The messages were sent when the six still feared that the British might use the pending court case to force them out. In practice, it is impossible to see how the six could have been moved from the consulate to any other premises without their being intercepted by the South African police, and arrested. The four embassies concerned have relayed the messages to their home governments without comment.

The Johannesburg Bar Council urged Mr. Botha yesterday to reconsider his decision last week not to return to Britain for trial four South Africans charged with arms smuggling and released on bail.

"An undertaking given seriously and deliberately to a court ought never to be broken", the council said. Breaking such an undertaking would undermine public confidence in the Government's "respect for the due process of the law".

Letters, page 15

## Ghanaians send 10 to firing squad

Accra (AFP) - The Ghanaian authorities have executed 10 people convicted of various crimes. They included a relative of the head of state who was earlier acquitted on charges of murder but then rearrested on his orders.

The executions by firing squad, which took place on Saturday, followed public hearings in which three of the accused were convicted of murder, five of armed robbery and two of smuggling, Accra radio said.

Those executed for murder included Richard Nii Amo Addy, a member of the security forces and relative of Flight-Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, the head of state.

## Political deadline favours President

# Chaos but no coup in the offing

Two years after democratic rule was restored in Bolivia, President Siles Suazo is wrestling with an economic crisis of gargantuan proportions. In the first of two articles, Patrick Knight reports from La Paz on the reaction of political groups to the worsening situation.



Leading actors: Veteran union boss Juan Lechin (left); President Siles and ex-President Garcia Meza.



Despite growing economic chaos, Bolivia is paradoxically further away from a military coup, than at almost any time in its turbulent history.

Inflation is now running in excess of 1,000 per cent, the world's highest and anarchy is gaining ground. There are endless strikes, and demonstrations, factories and mines have been taken over, roads have been blocked, and many goods are in chronic short supply. Some goods and services cost less here than anywhere in the world. Others are more expensive, as the economy careers out of control.

President Hernán Siles Suazo inherited a difficult economic situation when he took power two years ago, but the present state of affairs has been largely brought about by his attempt to please both his main groups of supporters at the same time - the middle and the working classes.

But he has ended up satisfying neither, although a majority of Bolivians still tolerate the economic mess preferring it to the tough military rule that went before. Despite his declining popularity, it still seems to be in nobody's interest - armed forces, political parties, or any of the neighbouring powers which have so often interfered in Bolivia in the past - to attempt to remove the 70-year-old President from power, and there is a political deadlock.

It seems likely that Señor Siles Suazo will complete his four-year term, and take the country to elections in 1986, although they might be brought forward if things deteriorate much more.

President Siles took over a prostrate country in 1982 after more than a decade of military rule, during which time the country's debt had climbed from \$700m to more than \$5 billion - one of the world's largest per capita, and extremely onerous for what is still a mainly subsistence economy, with virtually no industry to generate foreign exchange.

Señor Siles succeeded General Luis García Meza, closely connected with Bolivia's booming narcotics traffic. Exports of some 200 tons of cocaine paste a year are thought to earn about \$1 billion, far more than all other exports together. General García Meza came to power in one of the most violent coups in Bolivia in recent times, and deeply split the armed forces. Their image badly tarnished, the soldiers are still not anxious to move back on to the stage.

President Siles was confirmed in power by a two-thirds majority in Congress, including support from the parties of the right, led by Bolivia's earlier military ruler, General Hugo Banzer. The general governed from 1971 to 1978, and was largely responsible for the foreign debt. In 1982, as now, General Banzer's group felt that its best tactic was to give the Siles Suazo centre-left coalition the rope needed to hang itself.

The other important force in Bolivian politics is the powerful trades union congress, the Central Obrero Boliviano (COB), led by the veteran Señor Juan Lechin. The COB is anxious for the unions to have as much time as possible to consolidate and organize in preparation for the next elections. Although it claims to have put pressure on the Government to improve work-

ing-class conditions it has not succeeded. Average incomes were down by 35 per cent in the first eight months of this year.

One notable change is the growing strength of the peasants' unions which now occupy the second position in the COB hierarchy after the miners.

Four years ago hundreds of peasants blocked all access to the capital, La Paz, for three weeks, cutting off its food supply, in protest at the Government's efforts to introduce austerity measures imposed by the IMF. The now-victorious peasants are likely to play an increasing role, the country still being predominantly rural.

Bolivia's large neighbours, Brazil and Argentina, have often involved themselves in its affairs, and both General Banzer, and General García Meza came to power with help from abroad. However, these countries, as well as others in Latin America, the United States, and Western Europe, view the Siles Suazo Government with great indulgence, as being very positive for democracy in the region. They have been prepared to overlook Bolivia's failure to pay interest on the foreign debt, and neighbours have even come up with fresh soft loans.

With a strong socialist element - there are two communists in the centre-left administration - Bolivia has permitted an increasing Soviet presence in recent years. However, the Russians also want continued stability, and keep a low profile. Reports of Cuban training in the interior have not been confirmed by even the most rabid anti-communists.

Tomorrow: The economy

## Buhari to release 250 political detainees

Lagos (AFP) - The Nigerian head of state, Major-General Muhammad Buhari, yesterday announced the release of 250 political detainees - including businessmen, politicians and

their associates - from the ousted regime of President Shehu Shagari.

Forty of the more than 500 people arrested since the military takeover were set free

earlier this year. Those still being held include Mr. Shagari and his Vice-President, Mr. Alex Ekwueme, and a number of former state governors who have been sentenced to lengthy

prison terms for corruption. In yesterday's national day broadcast, General Buhari did not say who would be freed. Details would be given later.

## PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

### Laos: Prince Souk Bouavongs

By Caroline Moorehead

Prince Souk Bouavongs, a former member of Parliament and vice-president of the National Assembly, now aged about 80, has been held without charge for nearly nine years. He is said to have become physically infirm. After his arrest in Vientiane in October 1975, he was accused of attempting to overthrow the Government, but no trial followed.

Four days before his arrest, the Prince's house was surrounded by the local militia and his electricity was cut off.

From 1953 to June 1975, when the Pathet Lao took control of Laos, Prince Souk Bouavongs had been a parliamentarian, serving as public works minister and later as a director of posts and telecommunications. Unlike many other officials, who were sent to reeducation camps after the Pathet Lao came to power, the Prince has been kept in prison, first near Vientiane, and more recently in north-east Laos.



Prince Souk Bouavongs: Held without charge.

### Rain at last

Niamery (AFP) - Part of drought-stricken Niger had one of its heaviest rainfalls on record, more than 8in falling in areas that had not seen rain in years.

## Zimbabwe widow tells of murder gang's attack

From Jan Raath, Harare

saying he was nowhere near the scene of the attack. He also faces charges of attempting to murder Senator Savage's wife, Betty, aged 62, who was seriously injured. A fourth murder charge relates to the death of Mrs. Odilia Dube, a woman in communal land near by whom Ntshona is alleged to have shot on April 24 after she refused to have sex with him.

In court Mrs. Savage broke down when she described how, after the attackers had stopped firing, she dragged herself through the dust and smoke on the verandah of the homestead to find her husband and daughter lying dead.

Meanwhile, a Balawayo magistrate is to carry out an inspection near the village of Lapane in northern Matabeleland as part of an inquiry into the death of an army lieutenant and three civilians in February last year, allegedly killed by members of the Fifth Brigade.

## Nimeiry chooses hardline Muslim as chief justice

Khartoum (Reuters) - President Nimeiry ordered a re-organization of Sudan's judiciary yesterday and named a Muslim fundamentalist as the new Chief Justice.

A decree, carried by the official Sudan News Agency, replaced Chief Justice Dafaalla al-Haj Yousif with Mr. Fuad al-Amin Abdulrahman. Until Saturday, Mr. Abdulrahman was chairman of one of several "decisive justice" courts set up under a state of emergency to administer Islamic law.

The courts were suspended on Saturday, when President Nimeiry ended the five-month state of emergency but Islamic law, introduced a year ago, stays in effect and the President promised radical changes to ensure effective and prompt justice. The "decisive justice" courts have sentenced about 40 people to amputations for theft and robbery.

## Spanish taxmen strike over pay loss fear

From Harry Debellis Madrid

Spanish tax inspectors began a two-day strike over job reclassification, but did not rule out further action.

The stoppage by 1,000 employees at the Treasury Ministry yesterday was described as "the first civil servants' strike which appeals to the public".

The description came from the Secretary-General of Finance, Señor Juan Francisco Martín Seco, who belittled its effect.

Reports in Madrid said the ministry has not replied to a letter expressing the inspectors' grievances and which they sent to the authorities 11 days ago.

The inspectors object to a plan to reclassify certain categories of civil servants, including theirs.

The organizers of the stoppage said that if their demands were not met, there could be more strikes.

## Slovenes scared by rightist win

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

Herr Jörg Haider, leader of the Carinthian Freedom Party, has made no secret of his desire to see the present system of bilingual education ended. This has created considerable ill-feeling.

This measure, favoured by the Pan-German elements of the Freedom Party, has been sent as one of the chief reasons behind Herr Haider's success, although Dr. Karl Smolle, candidate for the Slovene list, insisted yesterday that Herr Haider lost votes in those areas of Carinthia which are inhabited by Slovene and German-speaking Austrians.

But Herr Haider's success within his party's leadership, Dr. Norbert Steger, Austria's Vice-Chancellor and head of the junior partner in the present Socialist-Freedom Party coalition Government, has distanced himself recently from many of Herr Haider's more controversial remarks.

# AUSTIN ROVER. DEALING OUT A CHALLENGE.

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FROM AUSTIN ROVER



# THE ARTS

## Television Spiritual weevils

Graham Greene was sitting at his daughter's Christmas dinner table watching his grandchildren pull crackers when the idea for *Dr Fischer of Geneva*, alternatively *The Bomb Party*, came to him: not a thought of good cheer born of the familial scene before him but, characteristically perhaps, of sin and a deadly one at that - greed.

In such a situation, with ourselves stuffed and the turkey deflated, most of us would have been marking out an armchair in which to recuperate, but Mr Greene, as befitts a writer, has the discipline to maintain alertness when guards are down. One wonders whether he set about writing at once or merely made a note for later. Which ever it was, out came the novel.

It could be read in less time than BBC's film version took to show it last night, and with more reward. There is nothing revelatory about the predilection of men, and rich men in particular, to greed, but Mr Greene's craftsmanship compels admiration even when one feels it lacks an appropriate challenge. One extends to such an author a friendly nod for his whole work. The film, produced by Richard Broke, who wrote the screenplay, and directed by Michael Lindsay-Hogg, had to succeed of itself. It failed.

Overlooking the omission of Greene's ending, which his Dr Fischer shooting himself, Messrs Broke and Lindsay-Hogg were only at fault in that they felt they had to try. What they had was a story that fell short of surrealism and lacked credibility as fiction. They also had a talented cast constrained by their roles.

James Mason played his last part as the self-despising Dr Fischer pursuing his theory that there are no limits to what the rich will endure to become richer. Clarissa Kaye, Hugh Burden, David de Keyser, Jacques Herlin and Barry Humphries were the "loads" who sat at his table suffering humiliation for the presence at the end of it. Alan Bates was Jones, Fischer's poor son-in-law who represents a challenge to his belief, and Greta Scacchi was Fischer's daughter.

The attractiveness of this last was something of a relief amidst the general morbidity but, alas, she had to die in a skiing accident. Even Cyril Cusack, who can usually do the best with the least, seemed in iron here.

Mr Greene, known to be careful about most attempts to film his works, is said to have been optimistic about this one. Perhaps he misjudged the extent to which an audience might share his enthusiasm for the pursuit of spiritual weevils.

On ITV, Yorkshire's *The Glory Boys*, written by Gerald Seymour and starring Rod Steiger and Anthony Perkins, began its three-night passage with such urgent address that it would be unjust to review it briefly. I shall report from the terrorist front later.

Dennis Hackett

## Galleries

## Opening doors to the unconscious

The Print in Germany 1880-1933  
British Museum

Dada-Constructivism  
Annelly Juda

Being blasé about the British Museum is so easy it has almost become a national sport. And yet the place just will not settle down quietly to letting us take it for granted. Virtually any time we choose to make the pilgrimage to the top of the stairs by the North Entrance, where the Department of Prints and Drawings has its exhibition gallery, revelations of some sort await us. It may be the most incredible show of Old Master drawings, or mind-boggling tributes to artists like Raphael or Watteau due for anniversary celebrations, or simply the most nearly complete display of Goya graphics one could ever wish to see. And - here is the clincher - in each case largely or entirely drawn from stock. It is as if the British Museum (with some occasional augmentation from the British Library) need only be aimed in any given direction, reach into its files, and bring out a show which anywhere else would be the wonder of the age.

The new show *The Print in Germany 1880-1933* (until January 6) is a case in point. Since the B.M. is the national repository for prints and drawings, its collecting brief includes many - much more up-to-date things than Hollar or Michelangelo - things of which the painted equivalent would automatically go to the Tate. We forget that until confronted with a show of this quality, all of which comes from the museum's own collections, even for the section of illustrated books from the British Library.

The first wonder is that the documentation of the "Age of Expressionism" is so comprehensive. We start with that eccentric master of etched fantasy, Max Klinger, and the weird series of prints through which, in 1881, he chronicled the history of *A Glove* and incidentally created at once the typical surrealist atmosphere of emotional dislocation, the feeling that something not quite right is going on, under the apparently normal surface of life.

The point of this as an origin of German Expressionism is that Klinger has opened a door to the unconscious to the depiction of emotional truth, however disruptive, rather than literal representation. And in the next few years, with astonishing speed, we see very square, Establishment artists like Max Liebermann being infected, so that what should be quite ordinary rural scenes take on a menacing and not wholly explicable intensity. Love's Corinth carries carries it all several stages further, and we are ready for such extraordinary

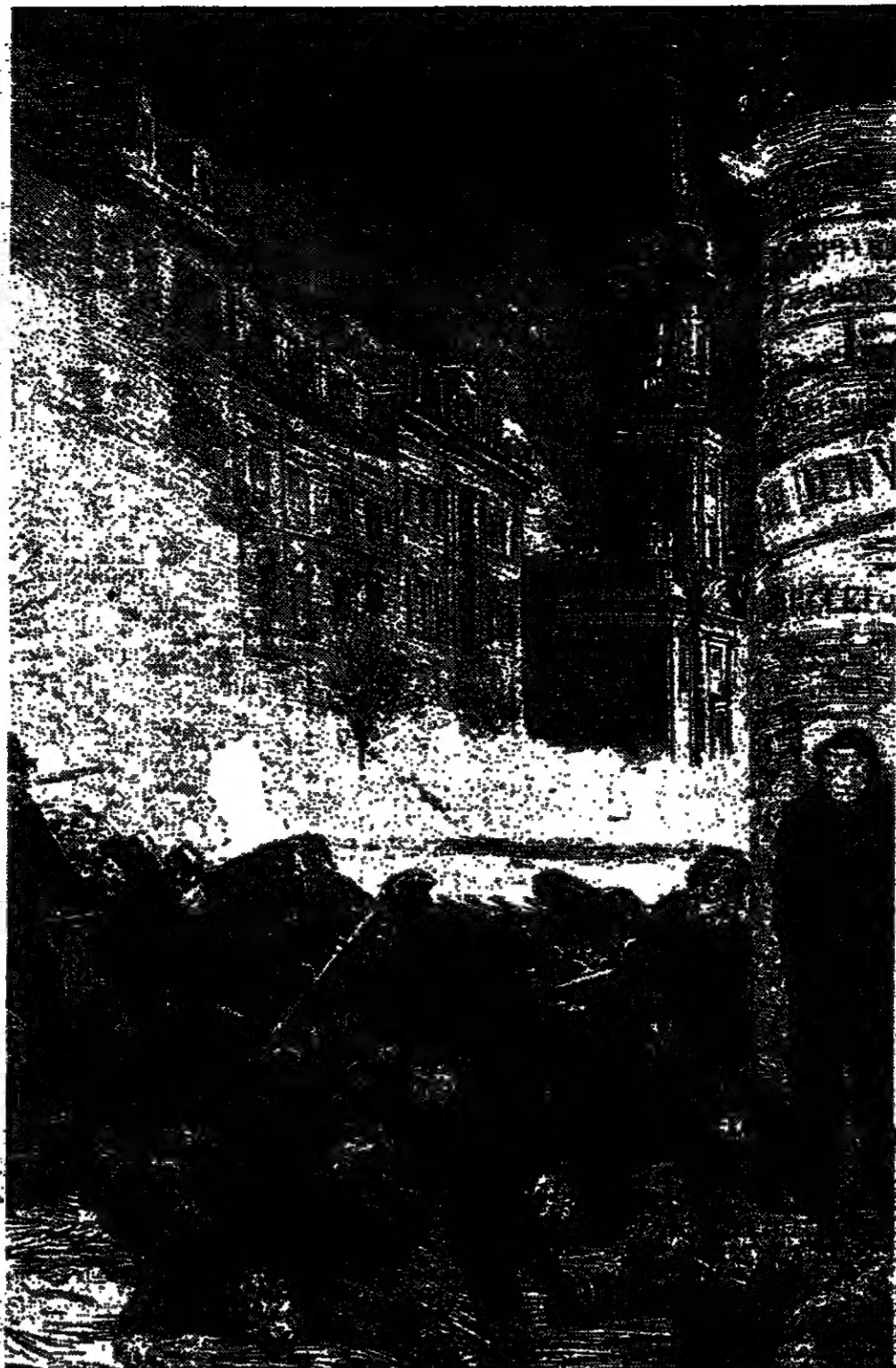
individualists as Käthe Kollwitz, with her anguished social concerns, or the Norwegian Edvard Munch, who sneaks in on the basis of his deep involvement with German art during the crucial years at the turn of the century. And so to the classic generation of fully-fledged Expressionists, most of whom were born in the early 1880s: Marc in 1880, Macke and Heckel in 1883, Schmidt-Rottluff in 1884, Kokoschka in 1886 and so on.

This group is most admirably represented with woodcuts, etchings and lithographs showing its range of subject-matter (from the idyllic to the nightmarish) and the astonishing variety of stylistic elements (from primitive art to the most sophisticated Art Nouveau) which went into the crucible of the Expressionist sensibility and came out transformed. Needless to say in Beckmann year, this separate but related master is also very prominently displayed with a large section of characteristic work.

It is not always clear at any given time what things belong with what, and during the 1920s the savagely ironic realists of the Neue Sachlichkeit group, such as Dix, Grosz and Hubbuck (this last one of the great rediscoveries of recent years), generally believed that they were at the opposite pole from the decadent Expressionists, who represented the last throes of the Romantic Agony. Now we can see - and it is one of the great benefits of a show like this that it makes, its see with unusual clarity - that the most important thing, binding them all together, was the spirit of the age. Not only is it impossible to assign an independent such as Kollwitz to one group or the other, since she clearly partakes of both, but even the extreme subjectives of Expressionism and those who made a parody of their "new objectivity" seem retrospectively to be following slightly different routes to the same ultimate goal.

So the show is intellectually very stimulating. It makes us think, it challenges our ideas and helps us to arrive at new definitions. But in the same time it is a powerful emotional experience. For all their technical brilliance, and these were very little these artists did not know about line on wood or metal, the strategic placing of solid blocks against delicate webs of line or fine gradations of tone - it is to our instincts they must appeal if they are to have any measure of success. And I would advise anyone to look round this show without at least an occasional shudder, a frisson of fear or a bark of savage delight. Not many of the gentler reactions to be sure, but if pity and terror are your mark, this is undoubtedly your show.

It might seem preposterous to ascribe Annelly Juda as similarly part of the *patrimoine national*, but on the basis of her actual shows of Constructivism



Something not quite right under the normal surface of life: Max Klinger's *Märchen II* (1883)

to which this year is added Dada - it is very tempting to do so. One would imagine that by now supplies of first-class work from a movement which, after all, reached its peak more than 60 years ago, would be rather thin on the ground, and even more difficult to come by when we are considering the all-important "early" Revolutionary Russian group of Constructivists. And yet every year the gallery up the precipitous stairs in Tottenham Mews reveals a new hoard of treasures. This year's show, *Dada-Constructivism* (until December 15), is no exception. Though Dada this time takes top billing, the Constructivist part continues to show maximum variety in the minimalist. Curiously enough, the drawings may all at a glance look the same, but very rapidly the personality of, say, El Lissitzky, with his delicately elegant inventions, detaches itself from that of Theo van Doesburg with his sturdy blocks of colour, or of Robert

Michel, with his funny mechanical figures, or of Friedrich Vordemberge-Gildewart, who can throw off audaciously and solemnly by sticking a piece of kitch picture-frame abounding right in the middle of something otherwise very staid and geometrical. But it is surely the newly prominent Dada element which really takes us by surprise. There are the familiar figures like Schwitters (some delightfully loopy collages) and Hannah Höch, represented by some of her more gritty collages and by a couple of paintings which in the climate of the Transavanguardia could hardly look more up-to-the-minute. (Though of course if one of the Zeitgeist artists had painted them they would be far less well executed.) But even that other old stand-by Max Ernst comes up with some new tricks, especially in *La Femme Dada*, an unexpectedly sensual gouache of 1920-21. Paul Citroën's *Woman in Window*, right next to it, achieves the same feat of

turning a human figure into a highly stylized, almost abstract, form, using a palette of primary colours and a composition that is both dynamic and balanced. The work is a testament to the Dadaist spirit of experimentation and the rejection of traditional artistic norms.

John Russell Taylor

## Dance

## Turning 'Sacre' into standard repertory

Béjart Gala  
TRM, Brussels

Sometime within the next 16 years, Maurice Béjart will need to find a new name for his company, because by 2001 the title *Ballet of the 20th Century* will be out of date. If that sounds too long-term a speculation, remember that it is already a quarter of a century since it all began in Brussels, and I doubt that many people then (even Béjart) would have given much for its prospects of surviving this far and, in the process, becoming one of the world's most travelled and most influential dance troupes.

The company, as a formal entity, began only in 1960, but the foundation was laid the previous autumn when Béjart's small group was one of four avant-garde dance companies invited by Maurice Huisman, newly appointed director of the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie, to perform there as part of his policy of trying to attract younger audiences into what had been a staid and dusty opera house. No danger of those adjectives any longer once Béjart, on Huisman's commission, had created his version of *Le Sacre du printemps* for dancers of the combined groups.

Inevitably *Sacre* had to be the cornerstone of the gala (four of them on successive nights, all sold out) that have just opened the jubilee season in Brussels. It has been, Béjart told me, "the only work we never had to revive because it was never out of the repertory for a single season". That must represent many hundred performances, but the company still dance it with no trace of routine.

From the opening, with 22 men spread across the stage, crouched like animals, through their games to choose the victim, through the apprehensive ceremony of the women to

the huge cumulative finale, there is not a moment when the tension slackens. Béjart's strength has always lain chiefly in his choreography for men, and with dancers such as Patrice Tournon as the chosen one, violently tormented, and Michel Cascard as the leader of the young men (the role Béjart danced when *Sacre* came to Sadler's Wells in 1960), the succession is in good hands.

Men were in the forefront in several other pieces representative of Béjart's work over the years. Jorge Donn made lucid the movements and, so far as anyone could, the metaphysics of a solo *Le Voyage* (1960) inspired by the Tibetan Book of the Dead. Richard Cragun, a guest star from Stuttgart, led the ensemble in a long, energetic sequence from *Messe pur le temps présent* (1967).

But you could never write off the women in Béjart's company. They are (uniquely among the world's big ballet companies) fewer in number and generally given less to do, but the best of them have always been very good indeed.

On this occasion Chikahisa Natsuyama, through the innocent, joyous clarity of her dancing, outshone her able fellow guest from Tokyo, Masako Tada, in *Dichterliebe* (1978). This is a curious duo to music mingling Nino Rota's cheerful circus tunes with Schumann, and shows a clown inspired by love of a young dancer to cast off his motley and follow true art even though interrupted by speech or by silence. The first time the music stops, at the height of a great emotional climax, comes as a shock like cold water thrown in your face.

Neumeier wears an oversized dinner suit with no shirt; hanging loose, the jacket and trousers make his slender body look "situated". Haydel is dressed in a petticoat. Their clothes, though, are not just actions to make their intentions - the constant shifting of chairs, the ceremonial welcoming of imaginary guests, the high flown speeches - the "husband addresses" to his wife, the pathetic "as they" scene, the mainstay of a kind of dignity in their folly through the power of love.

The bulk of the speaking falls to Neumeier, who copes very well with the French text. He and Haydel, two enormous personalities, fill the theatre with the charge created by the interaction of the characters they create, conceived on a big scale but conveyed by meticulous detail: an inflexion here, the placing of a hand there, the man swaying perilously on a chair or collapsing pitifully at the woman's feet, she posed with immense dignity across three chairs, or breaking from an embrace into an embrace.

The two performers share the stage with what must be about four dozen chairs, and as many again hang overhead, massed like threatening clouds and finally descending as if to crush these aging adolescents who imagine they might be Tristan and Isolde.

The music as you would guess from that allusion in the text, is from Wagner's opera, but only orchestral fragments which are at times overlaid or interrupted by speech or by silence. The first time the music stops, at the height of a great emotional climax, comes as a shock like cold water thrown in your face.

Neumeier wears an oversized dinner suit with no shirt; hanging loose, the jacket and

## Concerts Petrified style

Stuttgart CO/  
Münchinger  
Festival Hall

Back in the bad old days when Bach sounded like Bruckner, Karl Münchinger's Brandenburgs - the first I ever heard - were as heavy and as worthy as the black diets from which they emanated. The Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra has certainly moved with the times. Now the band of the 20 or so players is slumped down to the point of near-anorexia, the strings dry and reedy, the oboes and bassoons close-focused, and quite respectable imitations of their eighteenth-century ancestors.

On Sunday night the orchestra's 40-year history and reputation for stylish playing attracted a warmly welcoming audience to a programme of Mozart and Schubert. But now, alas, style has petrified into stylum. Münchinger is an urbanely theatrical stage presence, with his debonair shock of white hair, his neatly choreographed bow, his sweeping receipt of the baton from a front-line player. The music-making continues the act. Fluttering, left-hand fingers restrain, at times almost erase, so that every crescendo becomes a candidate for the pianissimo prize, and every phrase-ending evaporates into thin air.

In Mozart's Symphony No 33

there were moments of sharp, frozen beauty: in the Andante, for example, where the lower strings were a glassy, continuous accompaniment for the violins' fragile aria. But too often preciously ruled, from the sharply demarcated species of staccato in the Minuetto to the dedicated counterpoint of the Finale.

Even less musical sap was in evidence in the K436 D major Divertimento, which lacked even the sustaining sonorities of the woodwind. It was rather like the lemon juice without the pancake: sharp, sour and insubstantial, with its tiny, tight vibrato and its acerbic rhythmic insistence. Schubert's Andante, in his Fifth Symphony, was rather less happy than Mozart's. Here Münchinger's tendency to hold back tempi ingratiously at this stage in the proceedings was taken to almost ludicrous extremes, as each phrase was wound down only to be started up time and again.

These were hardly the most auspicious circumstances for young Adelina Oprisan's Mozart Violin Concerto No 3 in A. She is a highly strung player at the best of times; with only the most brittle of support, it was a case of dancing on broken glass. Sectional speed changes grew more edgy, more ragged, as the work progressed, and even the most well-meaning of ideas were hazarded against increasingly uncertain ensemble.

Hilary Finch

Hertfordshire CO/  
Colomer

Queen Elizabeth Hall

The first surprise among many in this concert was the size of the audience. Somehow, the Hertfordshire Chamber Orchestra managed to pack them in. The second was the quality of the playing. Only the opening did a slight incoherence creep in, but it was quickly corrected. The orchestra's sound was clear, bright, and well-balanced. The conductor, John Russell Taylor, was in excellent form, leading the orchestra with precision and style.

But also, most gratifying surprise was the quantity of the music. The Hertfordshire Chamber Orchestra played a programme of great variety, including works by Mozart, Schubert, and Brahms. The music was played with great assurance and an unfailing sweet sound. Though I would have preferred a more varied programme, the performance was altogether less smoothly rounded. And, as for the orchestra, they were certainly not to be despised. The music was played with great assurance and an unfailing sweet sound. Though I would have preferred a more varied programme, the performance was altogether less smoothly rounded. And, as for the orchestra, they were certainly not to be despised.

Stephen Pettitt

## Jazz

## Promising new club

Ronnie Ross  
Bass Clef

Without atmosphere, a jazz club does not survive. Some places, such as Ronnie Ross's, endure long enough for the required ambience - part bohemian chic, part workshop - to soak up all the history that has passed under the ceiling, others, in more of a hurry, try to purchase the stuff for the price.

A jazz club cannot be built merely of exposed plumbing and arty portraits of musicians, however. Sometimes, as with Scott's, it helps that the place is run by a musician. Peter Lind, a bass player who studied and performed with the late Lester Trisano, knows what the artist requires in more senses than one: he is also a recording engineer, with an understanding of what makes a room sound good, and the first compliment one can pay his ventures into club-owning is to say that the acoustics are superb. His intimate authority in the excellent service to the quartet of Ronnie Ross, the eminent British baritone saxophonist.

Bass Clef is located in a basement beneath Lind's studio in Hoxton Square, close to Old Street station, just north of the City of London. An unlikely location, but once the doors are closed and the band is jumping it might just as well be Seventh

Avenue South, or Fifth Street. The auditorium, the bar and a small restaurant area are carefully linked to reduce the kind of noise - knives and forks, cash registers - that blights other establishments.

The club is also presenting Latin and African music, while City workers can enjoy a succession of solo pianists at lunch times, but the staple diet is likely to be the best of British modern jazz. Ross certainly represented that with a thoughtfully chosen quartet which teamed two veterans of the Fifties - himself and Allan Ganley, the drummer - with two men of a later generation, the pianist John Taylor and the bassist Chris Laurence.

As a tribute to the common language of their collaboration look at a treatment of John Carisi's "Brazil" which put a new coat of paint on a 35-year-old tune, and a witty reading of Kern's "Dearie Beloved", the sort of standard beloved by modernists, since, like "On Green Dolphin Street" and "All the Things You Are", its opening phrase suggests both swinging propulsion and an oblique harmonic attack. Ross himself sounded remarkably fresh, his well-focused tone and crisp double-bass combining in a welcome antidote to the most self-indulgent ways of some younger practitioners of the big horn.

Richard Williams

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and study for three years  
giving up the company  
of women?



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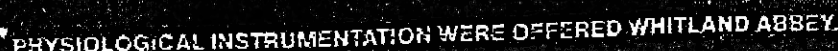
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**TIME**



## SPECTRUM

A poll taken specially for *The Times* found that most people favoured a youth volunteer service. In Part 2 of the analysis, Colin Hughes examines the options

# Youth will be served — by helping others

"The Government is now very concerned that unemployment should no longer exist under the age of 18." Beneath those sparse, apparently simple words, lies a furious turmoil of debate.

For the moment, was made, enigmatically, in reply to a question about whether or not the Government is ready to consider introducing a national scheme of community service for all young people, perhaps with a military option.

The opinion poll, carried out exclusively by Market and Opinion Research International (MORI) for *The Times* and published yesterday, showed that opinion is divided on whether such a scheme should be compulsory or voluntary.

All the organizations promoting the idea of a British "all-in" Peace Corps for youth are adamant that it must be voluntary and must exclude any military options. They believe that any hint of coercion will turn young people off and emphasize that there is a flat contradiction between the notion of willing service to the community and compulsion.

On the last occasion the issue arose in Cabinet rooms, during the planning of the Youth Training Scheme, ministers concluded that even indirect "incentives" such as withdrawing supplementary benefit from teenagers who rejected more than three offers of a YTS place, would be politically unacceptable in Britain today.

Even a voluntary option which aimed to pull all young people into the community service net could, according to some estimates, cost more than £1,000m, which might

**'The scheme must not be futile makework, that would be a recipe for disillusioning an already frustrated youth'**

Professor David Marsland  
Brunel University

prove prohibitive for a government committed to reducing public expenditure.

Youth Call, the organization which yesterday published the first detailed research proving that places could be found for 300,000 full-time youth volunteers in social services, health, and education, fear that any further suggestion of compulsion will mean that the very organizations which would be expected to run such a scheme would leave it to rot on the ground.

They argue that such a scheme must have all-party support, with many on the left back the idea, their suspicions run deep.

In a parliamentary debate of 1981, Mr Michael Meehan, the left-wing Labour national executive member, and then a member of Youth Call, argued that voluntary work for young people should be part of the training of life.

He hit out hard, however, at those who saw it as "forced labour, or the thin end of the nasty wedge of conscription."

As our poll yesterday showed, while older adults support compulsory service conscription, only one in four young people sympathize. Young people have, most enthusiastically, the military option. Interestingly more young men (75

per cent) than women (58 per cent) positively opposed "compulsory service conscription". It was also clear from our poll that better-off people are more strongly opposed to military conscription: 55 per cent of upper-middle class people, against 54 per cent working class being in favour.

Nonetheless, the poll showed that few would disagree with Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, who re-awakened the issue earlier this year in a major speech to the Council for Social Democracy. "Why," he asked, "with so many unnecessary tasks unfulfilled, and unmatched needs, does our society accept that so many of its citizens should live in enforced idleness?"

He continued: "We are in danger of losing a whole generation of people, turned off from the society in which they live, because they have been deprived of the opportunity to contribute."

The result was that when the SDP's "think-tank", the Tawney Society, produced its own Peace Corps proposals last month, they placed as much emphasis on what the scheme should not be, as on its positive merits.

Some 30 youth organizations, including the National Youth Bureau, Youth Aid, and the National Council for Voluntary Organizations, banded together four years ago in a loose alliance called Youth Choice precisely to fight plans that they suspect would lead to enforced youth service.

Mr Paul Lewis, director of Youth Aid, believes that Youth Call's plans are merely a way to "distract and disarm" a government tool for using cheap labour, depriving youth of skills, and weakening trade union influence. "It would cost at least £1,000m to set up such a national scheme. Why not spend that money on creating real jobs, with real training?" he asks.

To which Mr Kim Taylor, director of the philanthropic Gulbenkian Foundation and a leading advocate of national community service, responds: "Of course volunteering is cheap labour. But some essential tasks won't get done any other way."

As one of the first headmasters to start the now widespread practice of sending his Sevenoaks school pupils out of the classroom into the community 25 years ago, Mr Taylor is convinced that voluntary work can provide educational value which no training supervisor could achieve.

"All the evidence now suggests that employers are looking, not for specific skills which may be redundant in a few years time, but for evidence of personal qualities: energy, ability to work with other people, leadership, initiative. Young people are bored of being taught, they want to learn for themselves."

Professor David Marsland, of Brunel University, who visited 70 schools, hospitals, and care institutions to compile the Youth Call report, especially found that young volunteers, when asked to help the middle-aged but not the elderly. While the latter often interfered with busy suggestions, young people just got on with the job.

Until yesterday sceptics have also been able to dismiss the plan as a "kite flying fantasy". They claim that a huge increase in youth volunteers will mean substituting paid professionals for unpaid volunteers. Professor Marsland, however, said the claim by the five arts-in-detail, Oldham and London borough of Hounslow, part



Service with a smile: a volunteer encourages a shy pupil at a London assessment centre

of Hertfordshire, Leeds education, and Croydon social services, to confirm that no existing jobs need be undermined.

He found "very little outright opposition" to suggestions that every school classroom could use a teaching assistant, that mentally handicapped hospitals could use up to 100 volunteers each, or that young volunteers could double the effectiveness of home helps. "The main problem is not finding opportunities, but persuading people that they are there," he says.

He warns, however, that the scheme must not be "futile makework" which would be the best recipe for disillusioning an already frustrated youth.

The most concrete costing of such a plan was made by the Tawney Society, who assumed paying volunteers at £3.00 an hour, just above minimum wage. For 300,000 places, they estimated, the net cost would be £500m, taking benefit savings into account. The system would be administered by the Home Office Voluntary Services Unit, with funds distributed among local agents "franchised" to run local schemes.

Professor Marsland is sceptical about existing voluntary groups and of launching such a large enterprise

from a standing start. He recommends pilot projects, in line with the Tawney Society, but emphasizes that a new national organization, on a similar scale to the Manpower Services Commission, would need to actively seek volunteer placements rather than wait for local groups, councils, health, and education authorities to come up with their own proposals.

To Dr Alec Dickson, a figure of British voluntary work, and founder of Community Service Volunteers and Voluntary Action Overseas, the Tawney Society's plans are wishful thinking. "Wholehearted voluntary groups would need to grow. Too many of those existing now are built on the conviction that service is something you do in your spare time. They are not capable of the imaginative leap which a scheme like this requires."

He also doubts that many young people will be inspired by services in social work or teaching, although our poll yesterday showed that those are the fields most young women are keen to undertake.

Our deciduous woods, says Dr Dickson, have dwindled away demolished by Dutch elm disease and agricultural planning. Wild places of natural beauty are in danger of destruction from the

erosion of walkers' boots, wind, and rain. Coastlines are endangered. Teams of volunteers working full-time outdoors could add tens of thousands of places to Professor Marsland's estimates.

Each year local authorities are abused by a rural and northern populace, stranded by heavy snowfall. Few other European countries have such a problem.

Equally inadequate in the eyes of soldiers and politicians is the Nicholas Lyell Cup, the M for Mid Bedfordshire, and a Youth Call member, is Britain's civil defence.

Mr Lyell accepts a military service option will be unworkable, since the Armed Forces are too small to dilute their present conditions.

When the Manpower Services Commission set up an armed forces YTS scheme, with 2,000 places, 3,000 young people applied. The willingness to "join up" is there, but with a service condition.

Mr Lyell proposes a YTS scheme which would include a home or civil defence

## THE MORI/TIMES POLL

These tables have been repeated from part one of the series because *The Times* did not reach its full readership yesterday due to a fire at its printing plant.

● Do you think the government should or should not introduce a scheme for all young people to do compulsory community service when they leave school?

	Percentages within age groups						
	Total	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
SHOULD	41	28	35	32	44	58	54
SHOULD NOT	53	66	59	61	51	39	37
DON'T KNOW	6	6	6	7	4	3	9

(Those who answered "should not" or "don't know" to question one were then asked):

● Do you think the government should or should not introduce a scheme for all young people to do voluntary community service when they leave school?

Percentages within age groups		
Total	15-24-year-olds	
SHOULD	66	78
SHOULD NOT	25	17
DON'T KNOW	5	3
NO REPLY	4	1

● The proportion of those who supported either voluntary or compulsory community service, by percentage within each age group.

15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
84	78	70	78	87	84

● Would you on balance agree or disagree that "All young people should have to do national service in the armed forces?"

	Total	%age by age					
		15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
AGREE	45	26	34	45	55	57	64
DISAGREE	45	68	55	43	38	35	22
NEITHER, DON'T KNOW, OR NO REPLY	10	6	11	12	7	8	14

● We then asked MORI to ask the following three questions of only those aged 15 to 24. If there were a community service scheme, which of these would you prefer to do, if you took part?

	All youth	Young Men	Young Women
Helping elderly people	15	13	17
Teaching young children	32	14	49
Improving the inner-city environment	13	20	6
Working on a countryside conservation project	23	34	12
Helping handicapped people	19	14	25
None of these, or don't know	3	4	3

● Which of these would give you the strongest incentive to do community service?

Percentages within age groups		Would you most prefer to do between the age of 16 and 18?	
All youth	Young Men	All youth	Young Women
Start a job	42	Start a job	42
Study on at school or college	40	Study on at school or college	40
Join the armed forces	9	Join the armed forces	9
Take part in community service	4	Take part in community service	4
Don't know	5	Don't know	5

● If you were paid the same amount of money for doing each of the things on this list, which would you most prefer to do between the age of 16 and 18?

	Age
Start a job	42
Stay on at school or college	40
Join the armed forces	9
Take part in community service	4
Don't know	5

option, training young people in use of small weapons, civil order, and outward bound skills.

In 1933 Franklin Roosevelt tackled the Great Depression and disemployment by enlisting 250,000 semidetached and unemployed young men into a Civilian Conservation Corps, which planted trees, built roads, and set up 800 state parks.

Today, Mr Lyell proposes a YTS scheme which would include a home or civil defence

say "I did that." Dr Dickson adds: "A similar investment by our young today, whether they are unemployed, or seeking that vital experience of life between school and college, would still be bearing fruit well into the next century."

## Tomorrow

Voluntary service now and models for the future

Graham Greene has always disliked being interviewed or going on television, and when I went to his small Antibes flat on the occasion of his eightieth birthday it was no exception. He refused to see me.

That, perhaps, is putting it too bluntly. The fact is that I had no interview arranged with Mr Greene and I also went to the wrong flat. I did not quite know what to expect when I came face to face with Mr Greene for the first time, but I certainly did not expect a florid, moustachioed man in his forties and a string vest.

"M Greene? Oh là là, toujours la presse pour M Greene," he grumbled. "Il faut que je démenage. Il habite à côté." This last accompanied by a gesture at a nearby flat. I rang there too.

"Il n'est pas là," said the man, reappearing. "Il est à Paris. Interview avec Martin Amis, je crois."

A pang of dull jealousy smote me, though without drawing blood. There was, after all, something rather Greeneish about going to the wrong town to interview him and I felt like one of his characters, conscious of failure but not yet without hope. And if Mr Greene really disliked interviews, was I not being of more use to him by not interviewing him than Martin Amis, who was inflicting something unpleasant on him?

I have always felt it rather ironic that Graham Greene should become immensely successful through writing about people who were anything but — in fact, this was one of the questions I

## Enough to make me Greene with envy

moreover... Miles Kingston

had prepared to ask him. I wondered if his French neighbour had any views on this. It might be something of a scoop to interview a neighbour of Greene's.

Before I could make up my mind, a young man in shabby clothes appeared at my side and rang the Frenchman's bell. He reappeared, still in the string vest.

"Um, excusez-moi, je cherche Monsieur Greene," said the young man. It was as far as he got.

"Pas là. Demandez à côté. Fiché-moi la paix." And the door was closed again.

"He's not there," I translated to the bemused young man. "He's in Paris, talking to *The Observer*."

"Oh, hell. I was rather gambling on getting a bit of a scoop there."

The young man turned out to be a freelance writer for a railway magazine, hoping to interview Greene about his experiences on trains, and what they had meant to his writing. He felt that the unusualness of the approach would stir Greene's attention, though I doubted it.

"In his long life," I said, "there can't be any questions he hasn't been asked." I wager there is some earnest American student doing a D Phil on the place of rail transport in the oeuvre of Graham Greene.

"I bet *The Observer* is doing that at this very moment," said the young man dolefully.

Curious word, doleful. It looks as if it should mean in an unemployed sort of way. That was certainly how the young man appeared. His anorak seams had started to split and you could not tell what colour his shoes had once been. Although young, he already looked drab and seedy.

Seedy? The one word I had resolved not to use to Graham Greene. Everyone knew how much he hated the idea of Greenland, the feeling that he had created a

world of seediness and dingy hotels, whereas he claimed only to describe what he saw around him. It suddenly occurred to me that everyone knew pretty much what Graham Greene thought about everything, and I felt a lot better about not talking to him. "So how are you going to get round not meeting him?" said the young man.

"I am going to write about an interesting failure, to interview Graham Greene," I said with dignity, and left him standing there. As I went out into the street, I almost knocked over an old man shuffling in. He looked vaguely familiar.

It was only at Heathrow that it clicked. I had almost knocked over Graham Greene. I have now placed an order for a certain railway magazine to see if the young man brought it off.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 460)

### ACROSS

- 1 Tusked sea creature (6)
- 2 Dung (4)
- 3 Power (5)
- 4 Consumed by use (7)
- 5 Wicked action (8)
- 6 Melt (4)
- 7 Orchestra manager (13)
- 8 Cupid (4)
- 9 Dejected person (8)
- 10 Discolour (7)
- 11 Portion (5)
- 12 Fog, smoke mix (4)
- 13 Edible tuber (6)

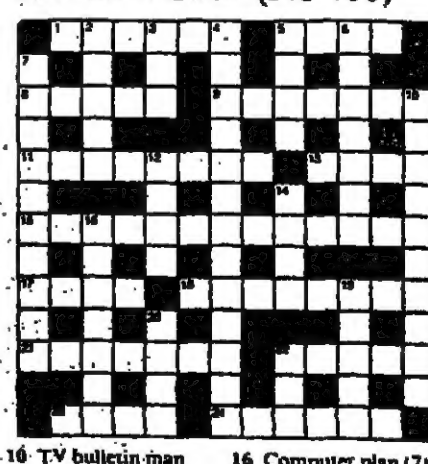
### DOWN

- 1 Portend (5)
- 2 Decay (3)
- 3 Fair play (13)
- 4 Dumb (4)
- 5 Looped needlework (10)
- 6 Not warm (4)
- 7 Railway ridge (10)
- 8 Clenched hand (4)

### SOLUTION TO No 459

ACROSS: 1 Picot 2 Deleux 3 Civic 9 Sacrist 10 Latitude 11 Lean 13 Whereabouts 17 Rare 18 Straight 21 Balding 22 Hoick 23 Descend 24 Nod

DOWN: 1 Pickle 2 Civel 3 Taciturn 4 Disadvantaged 5 Pack 6 Evident 7 Extant 12 Jonathan 14 Hurdles 15 Probed 16 Slashed 19 Grist 20 Mile



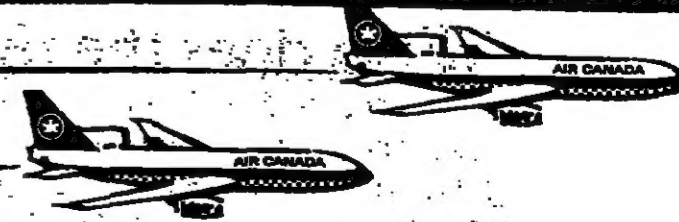
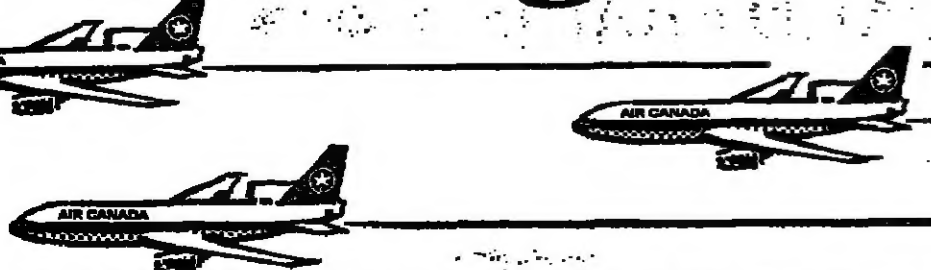
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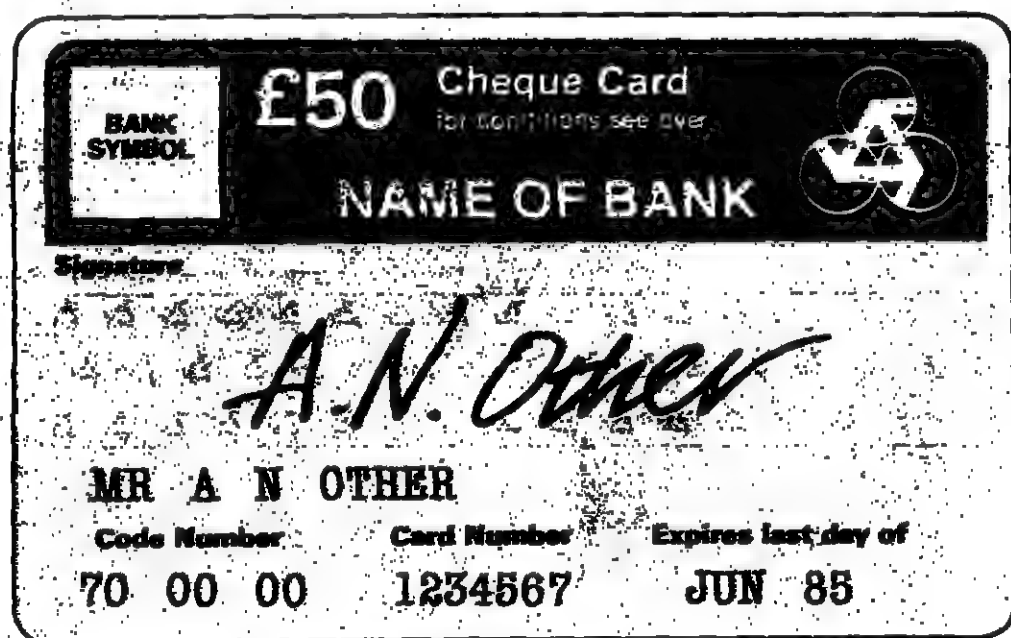
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# NO PEACE FOR THE WICKED



On the left, the existing cheque card. On the right, the new-look cheque card.

The existing card was introduced 15 years ago. While it has made cheque card fraud difficult, criminals have become more determined and ingenious. With the result that, in 1983, cheque card fraud losses ran to over £20,000,000.

The new-look card, however, can't be copied or changed without showing obvious signs of alteration.

To make it even more difficult for the criminal, the new card has an ingenious hologram in the lower right-hand corner. (You can look 'into' it and see the words 'Bank Card', a symbol matching the one in the top right-hand corner of the card, and the figure '£50').

So, with a little help from you, life is going to become very difficult for criminals.

## What does the retailer need to know?

The card works in much the same way as the existing card (the Conditions of Use are set out on the back). Of course, it is still up to retail staff to check the details of the card and the cheque before carrying out a transaction. The retailer's vigilance in checking the details of the card against the cheque itself – particularly the signature – will be crucial to the success of the new card in checking fraud.

Incidentally, a £50 reward is normally paid for the recovery of a defaced, altered or forged cheque card.

The Banks have already sent a package with details of the new card and full instructions to over 3/4 million retail outlets. Retailers who haven't received theirs yet should contact us at the address below, or enquire at their bank.

## What about the old card?

The new card is in circulation as from October 1st, but it will take some time before every cheque card holder is issued with one. So in the meantime, provided they are still valid, all current cheque cards should be accepted until they are replaced during 1985.

Card holders need take no action themselves; they will receive the new card automatically from their own banks before their current card expires.

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With this new card, the co-operation of card holders, and continued vigilance from retail staff, we can make life so difficult for the criminal that cheque card fraud just won't pay.

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# FASHION by Suzy Menkes

## Dressing up on the peg

The Vicomtesse de Ribes is client turned shopkeeper. She was born into fashionable French society, married at 17, on the last day of the first two years later and became a pampered patron of haute couture.

Two years ago she set up her own boutique in Paris, with Saint Laurent and Yves Saint Laurent as her main inspirations. She is dressed in a raspberry pink jersey, a scarf gliding across her body and apparently held in place by an effort of will.

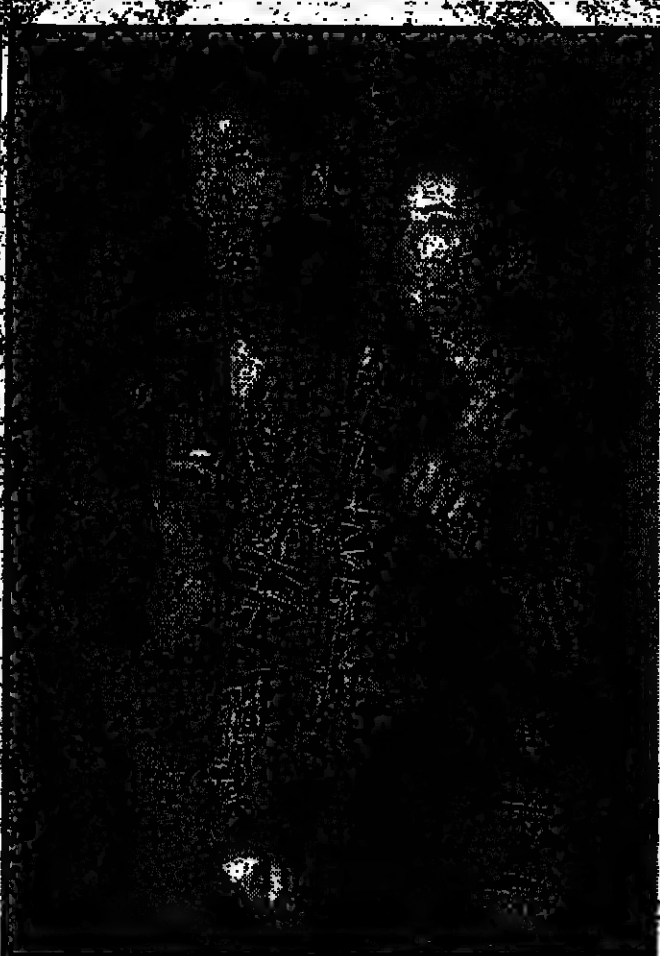
"Elegance is an attitude of mind," she says. "It means a sense of grace and proportion, a certain allure, but also a holding back, a rigour. It has nothing to do with fashion."

Last week the Vicomtesse flew into London to launch her collection - en route between a month-long promotional tour of the United States and fittings for next season in Paris.

Her English is as impeccable as her appearance, but every time she needs to express quintessentially French concepts of "chic" and "allure", she breaks into her native language. "Femininity has nothing to do with frills," she says. "It is a way of moving, of making clothes to the line of the body, like clothes that are very simple but not boring. Even a simple dress can have 'mouvement', show a river of silk flowing down, a model above a model of velvet."

"Ready-made is an interesting new concept," she says. "I bought for the first time from Harvey Nichols and I was in an elegant boutique in their designer floor."

All the clothes are cut and fitted on a mannequin - rather than cut flat to a pattern like normal ready-to-wear. The final



Right: Unisex patterned big shirt £13.99 by Scruffs from Top Shop branches. Earrings and bangle from Contraband, 9, Gess Court W1.

Above: Him: City lights print cotton shirt £19.50, Gee 2, South Molton Street and branches. Abstract-patterned cardigan to hand knit £32, mail order from Rowan Yarns, Green Lane Mill, Washport, Holmfirth, Huddersfield, W Yorks. Tweed trousers by Marcel Lussac £54, Harrods. Her: Graffiti print man's overshirt £9.99, C & A stores countrywide. Abstract shirt £30 by WiliWear from Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge SW1; Jones, 77 King's Road SW3; Squash, St Christopher's Place W1; Dash, Edinburgh. Navy cotton trousers by Joe £32 from Gee 2.

Below: Him: Woven check brushed cotton shirt £23 by Ball from Swand, 27 Old Compton Street W1; Innes Cole, Colchester; Clive, Streatham SW18. Checked wool mix trousers with side stripe £26.50, Stephen Jones. Her: Turquoise/black printed cotton shirt £15.99 by Scruffs at Top Shop. Flannel trousers, Benetton. Perspex bangle from Contraband.



## PRINT OUT

The computer age has left its mark on fabric. The printed shirt is the latest fashion software, taking over per bodies and using them as visual display units for high technology patterns.

Wild mixes of colour, abstract patterns and graphic prints appeared first on the streets. Now they are in the shops and printed fabrics - usually a summer story - are sweeping the fashion world. The shirt, the most important item of men's clothing, is the perfect canvas for these designs. It is short-sleeved, easy to wear, and can be worn in a variety of ways. It is also a versatile item, suitable for both casual and formal occasions. The printed shirt is a new way of expressing individuality and style. It is a way of saying 'I am who I am'.

The young man with big shoulders and a big head is the ideal man for the printed shirt. He is the man who is confident and who is not afraid to stand out. He is the man who is not afraid to wear a shirt that is different from the others. He is the man who is not afraid to wear a shirt that is a statement of his personality.

Like all fashion fads that hit the street at speed, the printed shirt is short-lived. Already people are looking for more romantic patterns, more traditional designs. But the printed shirt has already made its mark. It has shown us that fashion can be fun, that fashion can be a way of expressing ourselves. It has shown us that fashion can be a way of saying 'I am who I am'.

just inspired by new technology, they are also using it. There is a new method for burning-out textured patterns of woven fabrics using chemicals developed by Christine Paine in the Textprint section, where the Design Council is sponsoring 50 young graduates. Fresh ideas in textile design are being encouraged and encouraged.

Christine Paine is a young woman who is passionate about her work. She is a graduate of the Design Council's Textprint section, where she has been working for the last two years. She has been developing new methods for burning-out patterns in woven fabrics. She has been working with a team of other young graduates, and they have been developing a variety of new designs. She has been working on a variety of different fabrics, and she has been developing a variety of different patterns. She has been working on a variety of different designs, and she has been developing a variety of different patterns. She has been working on a variety of different designs, and she has been developing a variety of different patterns.



Above: Him: Yellow and black Vivella check shirt £52, Paul Smith, 44 Floral Street WC2; 23 Avery Row W1; Byard Lane, Nottingham. Felt trilby £16.99, Big Apple at Hyper Hyper, 15-40 Kensington High Street W8; 130 Acre Lane SW2. Cotton trousers £25.95, Tuccini, 147 Oxford Street W1; Top Shop, Newcastle and Liverpool. Her: Wool domino shirt £59.95 by Vaughn & Franks from Whistles, St Christopher's Place W1 and branches. Wool plaid circular skirt £25.90, Benetton, Tomato and Fantomax shops. Leather belt £19.50 by Otto Glanz from Fenwick. Earrings, Contraband.

Below: Him: Pink and grey cotton shirt £14.99 by George and Willie from Sticky Fingers, King's Road SW3. Liane woven cotton suit by Wall Wear, jacket £53, trousers £37 from Harvey Nichols SW1; Jones, King's Road SW3; Squash, St Christopher's Place W1; Dash, Edinburgh. Her: Brush-stroke print shirt £12.99, Marks and Spencer. Floral silk tie, Harrods.

Make-up by Mary Ellen Lamb using Maybelline and Marbert. Man: Hair by Gary at Trevor Anthony. Photographs by RUSSELL MALIKIN.



details of waist or hem length are then left to be finished to the customer's requirements. The prices - up to £2,000 for an ink blue evening sheath with puff balls of tulle for sleeves - are as high as you can go for off-the-peg.

Watching the Vicomtesse working on her show, and talking to her about the make of her clothes, dispels the idea that she is a socialite playing at business.

Many of her dresses have a couture look, with swathes of fabric lapping the bodies on the bias. Her most show-stopping dress is a black velvet sheath with an asymmetric insert of lace.

Does Jacqueline de Ribes believe that her philosophy of elegance can be truly understood by those who have not been brought up - like the French - to believe that fashion is central to a woman's life? "Fashion is important to everyone because it is a reflection of our time," she says. "We see a period afterwards through the clothes."

Evans makes Diamond bow tie under the influence of the decorative art of the 1920s. A gold serpent with articulated scales slithers towards a pendant diamond in pale brown to match the 'markings' of the body. Another diamond hangs like a piece of prey beneath a predatory bird, or studs the wings of a more domestic dragonfly.

The swan is a recurring motif, used as two swans clasping for a white enamel and gold collar or as a flying bird carrying a dying swan.

Enamel is a feature of Evans' work, used for a multi-coloured fan of feathers set with diamonds for a hair comb that also has a hanging diamond drop. "I like all the stones to have space and movement," says Mr Evans.

His wife was wearing a wittier piece, his ultimate bow tie (above) moulded like a sculpture, enamelled and sparkling with stones.

Edward Evans designs exclusively for Garrard's, working from his own drawings and making the pieces himself. He has found a new resurgence of interest in jewelry, shown too by

active Princess of Wales) younger in style. Flowers are a popular, naturalistic motif, the unusual golden yellow sapphires are fashionable stones.

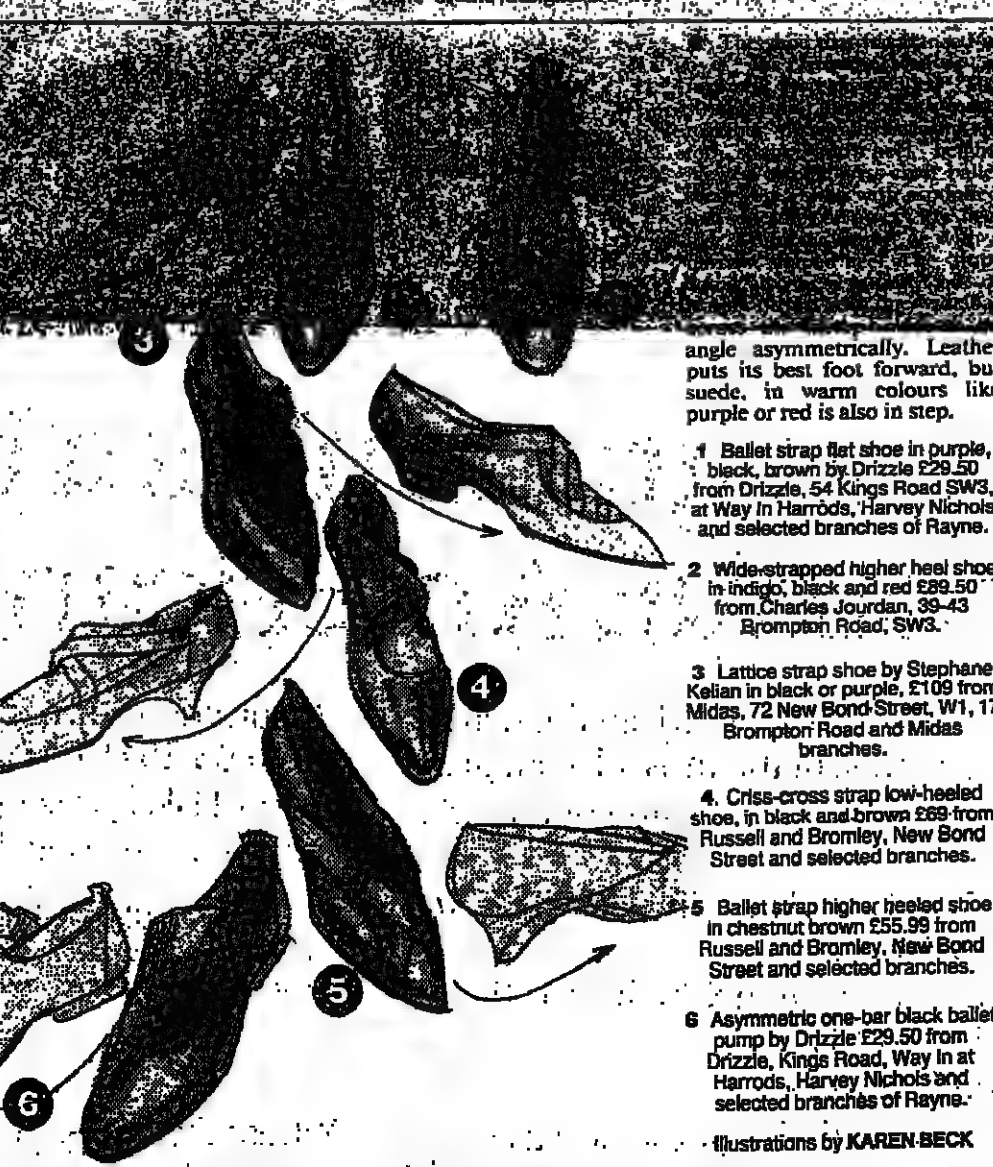
The most stunning of the Edward Evans pieces is a white enamel swan on gold, each feather, ruffled and detailed and a diamond dremblant as the ultimate decoration.

Most deadly is the gun - an object of beauty and grace, but with real gold bullets to shoot. The idea of fancy firearms has a fine pedigree, as the collection in the Victoria & Albert Museum shows.

Is the modern decorative gun aimed at the Middle East sheikh, the South American dictator, the Texan oil cowboy or at collectors and connoisseurs?

"I wish it were not a real weapon," says Edward Evans. "But, put it this way, I don't think there will be any shortage of customers."

Edward Evans at Garrard The Crown Jewellers, Regent Street, London W1, until October 6.



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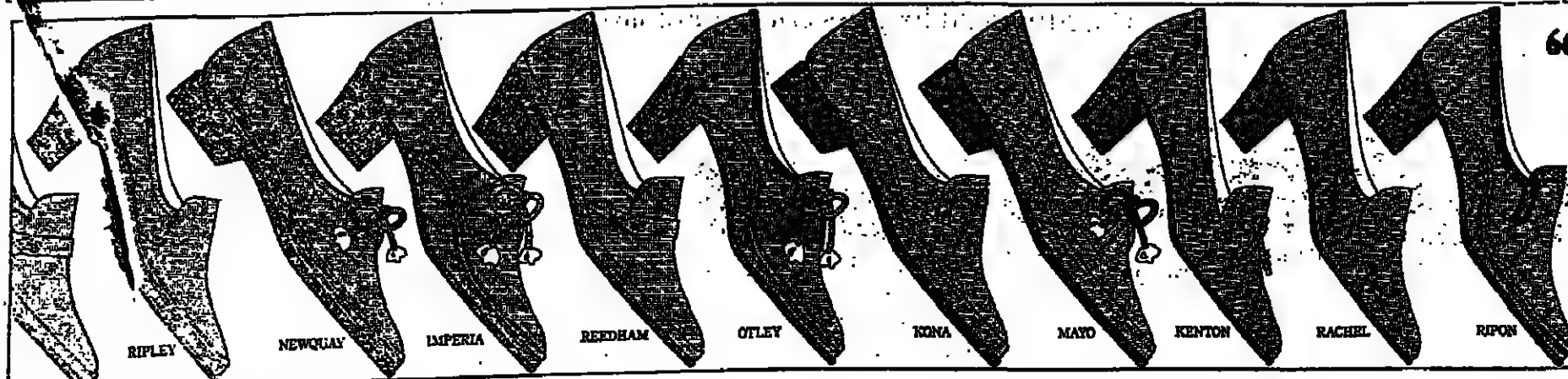
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## THE TIMES DIARY

### Swinging Blackpool

The Labour conference, condemning police violence on the picket lines yesterday, omitted to mention violence in the foyer of Blackpool's Imperial Hotel on Sunday night. Brian Wilson, a member of the Scottish Labour party's national executive, spotted Anthony Looch, the *Daily Telegraph's* parliamentary correspondent, checking a PA report that the Kinnocks had failed to sing the national anthem in church that morning. Wilson accosted Looch, accused him of being a muckracker and "prostitute of the press," and threw a glass of whisky in his face. The normally mild-mannered Looch lashed out, breaking Wilson's spectacles. The two were finally parted by the Imperial's management. "I don't regret clouting him," said Looch yesterday. "I wish I had hit him harder."

● Is nothing sacred? The Blackpool rock on sale at the Winter Gardens is run through with the words "Tories Out".

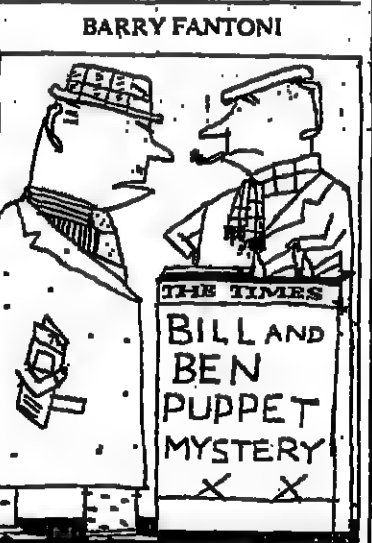
### Frown Imperial

While the bulk of Labour's 29-strong national executive committee routine at the party's expense in the Imperial Hotel (double rooms £56), Denis Skinner, MP for Bolton, is paying £10 a night - out of his own pocket - in a B and B. Skinner, who finds the idea of his NEC colleagues staying at the Imperial "abhorrent" and "elitist," can ill afford this principled stand. For the past seven months his MP's salary has been paid direct to the NUM and has been the subject of striking miners.

● Robert Maxwell appeared to have one supporter amid a roomful of hecklers when he addressed a Blackpool fringe meeting on Sunday - a woman who applauded all he said. Intrigued, left-wing Hackney MP Brian Sedgemoor questioned her - and discovered she was the wife of Labour's right-wing chief whip, Michael Cocks.

### Flying high

The power of the press. Yesterday the diary reproduced Walter Crane's historic electricians' union banner, which had been barred from Blackpool because Labour conference organizers thought that, by hanging it, the party would be endorsing the "right-wing" led EPTU. Today the banner is in Blackpool. Terry McCarthy, director of the National Museum of Labour History, which had agreed to lend it, tells me that when party leaders heard of my inquiries, emergency instructions - believed to have come from Neil Kinnock himself - were given, ordering the banner to be taken immediately to Blackpool. "In a panda car if necessary." It was put in a hired van and driven overnight from London by the museum's curator, Bernadette Gillow. "Absurd is not the word," said McCarthy yesterday.



Barry Fantoni  
"That's no way to talk about the steelworkers' leader and the Hon Member for Chesterfield"

### Pull together

The NUM's Switch on at Six campaign urging the use of off-peak electricity to deplete power station coal stocks, now asks supporters to flush lavatories after 6pm. "This helps to activate sewage pumps which are high users of electricity."

● Former Scotland Yard commander Albert Winterton, known in his heyday as the Grey Fox because of his cunning, could be facing his toughest case yet. Now security chief at the Sun, he is investigating the disappearance of a pile of photographs of topless models to be used in the next Sun calendar. "Where do you start?" he asked me.

### Double vision

Spectator subscribers received an unsolicited mailshot yesterday from Alexander Chancellor, the magazine's former editor, inviting them to subscribe to the revamped *Time and Tide*, which he now edits. Readers who, like myself, object to the intrusion of mailshots, will doubtless speculate how Chancellor got his hands on the *Spectator's* subscription list. Could the answer lie in *Time and Tide's* telegraphic address: Watergate, London? Far from it. The *Spectator*, sold to the addresses of its readers to Chancellor for £250. And what does Chancellor do? He promises in the mailshot that his new baby will "deal at greater depth with a wider range of subjects than is normally possible in the *Spectator*." And his writers? Principally: old *Spectator* retainers - Ferdy Mount, Richard Ingrams, Auberon Waugh, Paul Johnson et al.

# Belgrano: there was no alternative

The Belgrano controversy drags on, wearying the great majority who have long understood the military imperative that convinced responsible ministers that HMS Conqueror should be authorized to attack. It is difficult to believe that the motives of those who still doubt the relative unimportance of the Belgrano's course at any particular time are other than political, but it might help them clear their minds if some of the professional aspects were spelt out in more detail.

A commanding officer making contact with the enemy reports to his operational commander in the traditional form: "What, where, whether, when." "Whether" is an estimation of the enemy's present course and speed. It is no sure indication of his future movement.

All that can be said with certainty when the signal is received - after a variable delay - is that the enemy must be within a circle whose centre is the reported position (where) and whose radius is the enemy's known maximum speed (30 knots in the case of the Belgrano) multiplied by the time that has elapsed since "when".

This circle is called the "furthest-on circle" and it expands as time passes. The sensible operational commander, which Admiral Woodward certainly was, must take account of the most dangerous possibility, that the enemy could be at the point on the circumference of the circle nearest to him.

Let me ask the doubters to put themselves in the position of the War Cabinet on Sunday, May 2, 1982, in possession of all the intelligence that is summarized in paragraphs 1 to 8 of the annex to the Prime Minister's letter of September 19 to Mr George Foulkes, MP (report, September 20), but with none of the information now available with hindsight.

Particularly fresh in ministers' minds are the air attacks on our ships the previous day, the reported detection and attack on an Argentine submarine close to the task force, and knowledge that virtually all the Argentine fleet is at sea. They are aware of the intelligence appreciation that the Argentines are attempting a pincer movement on the task force.

His defensive approach has been crucially influenced by the writings of Eric Hobsbawm, to which he frequently refers both in private and in public. Hobsbawm, a distinguished Marxist historian and a leading member of the British Communist Party, has argued in a number of influential speeches and articles that the Labour Party needs to adopt a new approach if it is to reverse its 30 years of almost continuous electoral decline. Labour's crisis, he argues, is rooted in the decline of its manual working class base, increasing consumer individualism and the growing sectionalism of trade unions. The Labour Party, in his view, must learn to sing a new tune if it is to renew its electoral appeal. Instead of its traditional emphasis on class politics, it should seek to build a popular front embracing the broad spectrum of opinion and even be willing, if necessary, to form a pact with the Alliance at the next election.

While Neil Kinnock has, firmly, rejected an electoral deal with the Alliance, he broadly accepts the thinking that leads up to it. His principal aim as leader has been to rebuild the Labour Party as a people's party with a broad cross-sectional appeal. This partly explains his anxiety to distance himself from Arthur Scargill. It also accounts for the constant reiteration of two themes in his speeches during his first year as leader - the Government's failure to reduce unemployment and Labour's attack on long-established freedoms. It has been his bad luck that the divisive miners' strike has partly drowned out his attacks on the Government, and cut across his aim of mobilizing a "broad democratic alliance" against it.

But it has not only been bad luck that has helped Kinnock in his first year. The analysis that informs his strategic thinking is also flawed.

But while there is clearly some validity in Hobsbawm's analysis, its bleak pessimism is encouraging Labour's new leadership to be over-cautious. Hobsbawm's central argument that Labour is in decline due to deep-seated social change cannot

Give us the tools, said Churchill, and we will finish the job. But the work of *Time and Tide* is unlikely ever to be done. The Tool and Trades History Society, barely a year old, has set out to provide a forum in which the tools, the techniques and the social circumstances of pre-industrial technology can be recorded and investigated.

This curiously appealing lot seem to be managing rather more elegantly than the unpretentious objects of its obsession might at first suggest. Volume one of its possibly annual journal, and the newsletter, look good and perform their appointed functions smoothly. Just like the old artefacts and antiques whose shades grace their pages.

"These subjects are not new," the magazine says. "In a piecemeal way they have attracted attention over a long period and in many different contexts but, inter-related though they are, they seem never to have coalesced into a single, organic field



They have been briefed on the limitations of communicating with submarines deep in the South Atlantic. The Chief of Defence Staff gives details of HMS Conqueror's report that she is in contact with the Belgrano and asks for political approval to attack. This is given.

Would the doubters have wished to apply a caveat to the decision? If so, what? "Do not attack if she is steaming west?" But the Belgrano and her consort remain a threat as long as they are afloat and undamaged. Course and speed can be changed in minutes. They may split and go in different directions. That HMS Conqueror will remain in contact cannot be guaranteed. Communication between the submarine and Northwood is far from immediate. In war, opportunities must be taken while they exist; there may not be a second chance.

At 3.40 pm on May 2, Northwood received an amplifying report from HMS Conqueror, still in touch with the Belgrano and her escorts. The position gave a new datum for further-on circles, this together with course and speed, gave an indication that the Argentine ships were moving relatively slowly westward. None of this was reported to ministers, in my view correctly.

But, suppose this latest information had been reported, what action would the doubters expect the ministers to take? Cancel the previous approval to attack? There is no new intelligence of Argentine intentions on which to base the response. At 3.40 pm the Belgrano could still reach our ships

Lord Lewin, Chief of the Defence Staff during the Falklands war, puts the military case for sinking the Argentine cruiser and argues that all subsequent evidence has shown the Cabinet decision was right.

during the night. Recently refuelled, she might be preparing to pass south of the task force to attack our recently reestablished small garrison in South Georgia, protected by a single frigate.

Admiral Woodward had no reconnaissance aircraft to warn him of the Belgrano's approach other than anti-submarine helicopters, busy against another very real threat. He had no direct communication with HMS Conqueror and was feeling somewhat exposed.

To carry the hypothesis further: suppose, ministers, against strong military advice, did decide to withdraw approval to attack. They would have been reminded that the signal reversing the order could take some hours to reach HMS Conqueror (we know now that the original signal took more than four hours from decision to reception). Since, when the permission to attack was received, the commanding officer of HMS Conqueror would immediately start the tactical manoeuvres for his approach to a firing position, these would be incompatible with exposing an aerial to receive further signals - it would be virtually certain that the attack would be completed before the cancellation order was received.

We now have much more information about Argentine actions and intentions on May 1 and 2 than were then available. From Admiral Lombardo's appearance on *Panorama* on April 16 we know that the Argentine fleet had been ordered to attack the task force and the Admiral Woodward's assessment

that it was attempting a pincer attack was indeed correct.

We also know from Admiral Lombardo that, Super Etendard aircraft, armed with Exocet missiles, had taken off from shore bases on May 1, but that the attack failed because the necessary in-flight refuelling was unsuccessful. We know that, because lack of wind prevented the launching of the Skyhawk aircraft from the Argentine carrier, the warships were called back; Captain Bonzo of the Belgrano tells us that he had been ordered to a waiting position and was conducting "anti-submarine tactics" on passage, presumably because he thought he might be attacked.

Against this must be set the present knowledge that the Peruvian president was putting forward what, in the light of the detailed formulae that had been exchanged and dismissed in the Haig shuttle, can only be described as tentative proposals for further negotiations. There has been no suggestion that the Argentine command rescinded the orders for their own ships and submarines to attack, because this initiative was in progress - and they certainly knew about it while we did not. They do not appear to have been concerned about the effect the torpedoing of a British warship by an Argentine submarine on May 2 might have had on the British attitude to negotiations.

If all this had been known by ministers at the time, surely it could only have reinforced their resolve that, for the better safety of our own people, the opportunity to remove the Belgrano from the Argentine order of battle should be taken.

That the Belgrano should be sunk with such heavy loss of life is indeed tragic, but the responsibility lies squarely with the junta which launched the invasion of the Falklands, and which, when called upon by the United Nations to withdraw, poured in reinforcements, demonstrating that what it had intended to hold. These men are now under trial in Argentina for crimes against their own people. Which of our politicians would have been prepared to take the risk that the Falkland Islanders should be left under their administration?

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## James Curran challenges Labour's 'broad front' advisers

# Why Kinnock must take a chance

Neil Kinnock has shrugged off this latest adverse Gallup Poll findings - revealing a sharp drop in his personal standing as well as in support for the Labour Party - as being merely a transient blip in the fortunes caused by the miners' strike. While this may be correct, the downturn in the polls could prompt him to think again about the broad campaigning strategy he has adopted.

His defensive approach has been crucially influenced by the writings of Eric Hobsbawm, to which he frequently refers both in private and in public. Hobsbawm, a distinguished Marxist historian and a leading member of the British Communist Party, has argued in a number of influential speeches and articles that the Labour Party needs to adopt a new approach if it is to reverse its 30 years of almost continuous electoral decline. Labour's crisis, he argues, is rooted in the decline of its manual working class base, increasing consumer individualism and the growing sectionalism of trade unions. The Labour Party, in his view, must learn to sing a new tune if it is to renew its electoral appeal. Instead of its traditional emphasis on class politics, it should seek to build a popular front embracing the broad spectrum of opinion and even be willing, if necessary, to form a pact with the Alliance at the next election.

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be readily reconciled with what has happened elsewhere. During the period when electoral support for the British Labour Party was nose-diving, the left romped home with more than 50 per cent of the vote in Austria (1979), Finland (1966), France (1981), Greece (1981), Portugal (1976), Spain (1982), Sweden (1982) and Norway (1969), and secured its highest ever vote in West Germany (1973) and Italy (1983). Although many of these countries had experienced similar social changes to those in Britain, this did not prevent all but two from winning a higher percentage of the vote than the British Labour Party achieved even in 1945.

As a number of contributors point out in a new book (to which Neil Kinnock contributes two essays) Hobsbawm highlights only those

social changes that have operated against the left and largely ignores countervailing social trends. The decline of social deference, increasing resistance among women and young people to patriarchal authority, the effects of unemployment, in driving women back into the home and blocking opportunities for school leavers, the unionization of white collar and white blouse workers, the sharpening division between workers in routine jobs and the "career class", and the enormous growth of public sector employment are only some of the social changes which have aided the left in much of Europe and which potentially could aid the left in Britain.

The Labour Party is not in a position of deep crisis, undermined by remorseless social processes to which it can respond only by inching

cautiously and inoffensively into the middle ground of British politics. On the contrary, there are powerful social currents which make it possible for an unashamedly socialist party, responsive to these trends, to forge ahead.

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Roger Scruton

## The Pope musters his divisions

Set against the background of world events, the Pope's denunciation of "liberation theology" may seem unimportant - as unimportant as the Bishop of Durham's carefully stage-managed apostasies, or Dean Cyprian's tub-thumping repudiation of his faith. In fact, however, the Pope's gesture is one of the most significant developments in the Christian Church since the second Vatican Council.

For the first time in recent years a Christian leader has recognized what has been obvious to unbelievers for decades: that Marxism is a religion, and that it is as incompatible with Christian thought and practice as the religion of Khomeini or the worship of the sun. Moreover, Marxism is a primitive religion, unable to distance itself from the busy nothingness of this world, unable to introduce either clarity or serenity into the minds of those converted to it, and unable to offer the supreme, consoling vision of a transcendent God. It is a religion of turmoil, hatred and blind superstition, clothing the world in violence, and feeding upon human sacrifice.

Where the Marxist sees "liberation", the Christian sees only murder, terror, and self-justifying sin. Poverty, hunger - even death itself - all these features of the human condition which true religion forbids us to accept, are, for the Marxist, occasions of demonic outrage. His god History roams the world in search of abstract justice, and where History alights the blood of the innocent must flow. His church is the most bigoted that the world has known, and his inquisition the most murderous and implacable, tolerating no government except Marxist theocracy, and extinguishing opposition at whatever cost.

Like every primitive religion, Marxism is haunted by imaginary devils. "Capitalism", "imperialism", "deviationism", "revisionism", "infantile leftism", "fascism", everywhere in the path of the Marxist lie dark and inscrutable enemies, and without the benefit of constant incantation, he must surely be waylaid by them and deprived of his soul. Those in the grip of this superstition must therefore constantly fortify themselves with the most astonishing, invective. The "word magic" of the Marxist is an attempt to "appropriate nature", to summon the forces of History against the enemy. When he calls you a "bourgeois fascist", McCarthyite cold-warrior" he gives vent to a superstitious fear of your disagreement, and like every person in the grip of superstitious terror, he is dangerous. It was just such a terror that once prompted Khrushchev to leap on to the rostrum of the United Nations and cry "We will bury you!" This was neither a prediction, nor a decision. It was a spell.

Let us be thankful that a Christian leader has at last affirmed the self-evident truth, that poverty, inequality and "exploitation" are legacies of original sin, whereas the Marxist determination to abolish them involves a new sin of our own. The author is editor of *The Salisbury Review*.

Peter Kellner

## Beside the seaside - or Battersea?

Stanley Holloway had a particularly menacing way of describing Blackpool as "full of fresh air and fun"; he made it sound only slightly more appealing than a hi-de-hi camp in January, and almost as dangerous as Kabul after curfew. I refuse to accept that Mr Holloway was simply applying his skills in black comedy. I suspect he really hated the place.

For those who fear another sour dissertation on the town's hotels, restaurants and illuminations, fear not. Others, with far more experience, have said it all before. Besides, I only come on the even-numbered years when the excellent company of Labour Party delegates eases the agony. Like most sensible Conservative MPs, I find Tories gathered together en masse far too brash, raucous and uncivilized - just like the town itself.

Perhaps it would be bearable if party conferences, as was the custom, were held by the seaside, even Blackpool, in May or June. Labour conferences were traditionally late-spring affairs until a few years after the war.

But then some masochist decided to move the conference to the first week of October. So we walk past the deserted beaches, trying to avoid the wind and spray, from bedroom to conference to fringe meeting to bar and back to bedroom again, pretending, not normally very successfully, to enjoy it.

If the Labour Party, or any other, were to plan its conference from scratch, it is inconceivable that it would choose Blackpool in October. Quite apart from its intrinsic lack of appeal, it is absurdly remote. It is 50 miles nearer to London than Newcastle upon Tyne, but the fastest train takes 20 minutes longer. And, if you set off for Blackpool from other parts of the country, the journey can take substantially longer.

Norwich is only 190 miles away as the crow flies, but the fastest train journey takes six hours 14 minutes. Hull is even nearer - a mere 120 miles, but British Rail assures me that by the time you have changed at Leeds and Manchester, the absolute minimum time it takes to go by train is five hours 21 minutes. London and Edinburgh are three times as far apart in miles, but actually closer in rail travelling time.

Then there is the expense. Even if Blackpool were the cheapest seaside resort in Britain, almost everyone who goes there would still have to pay a substantial sum in hotel bills or rented rooms. Television companies and Fleet Street newspapers need not worry, but many others do: delegates from constituency parties that survive on lotteries and jumble sales; and the Labour Party itself

The normal practice of the Roman Catholic Church on encountering a primitive religion has been to incorporate it, to elevate its rites into sacraments, its gods into saints, and its joys and terrors into moral sentiments. But certain special features of Marxism make it resistant to this process. First there is the theory, which effectively reverses the dogmas of Christian theology. Marxism offers immutable laws of History in place of the will of God, earthly communism in place of heavenly salvation, "primitive accumulation" in place of original sin. Second, there is the practice, which replaces common morality with the exalted fervour of a revolutionary elite, to whom all is permitted.

There is a further feature, however, which is yet more destructive of Christian values. Every religion, however primitive, embodies in its ritual an apprehension of the sacred. Without that apprehension no society can easily survive. Marxism sets its face against the sacred and laughs it to scorn as the great human delusion. But when nothing is sacred, Nothing is sacred. The Marxist - who is but a mediocre creature like ourselves - begins to believe in the sanctity of Nothingness. An exultant nihilism comes to dominate his sentiments. He cannot thereafter desist from tearing down institutions, laws, customs and values, and a day passed without an act of desecration is a day lost to Giant Despair.

This sacrilegious frenzy is familiar to us widely from the writings of bishops and theologians. During the 1960s and 1970s the disaffected priesthood overwhelmed the media with its insulting imbecilities. And not one of those who professed to speak for the Christian churches perceived the danger of Marxism: not one of them saw that Marxism is precisely a perversion of the religious instinct, a channeling of religious emotion away from its true end, towards the vain task of earthly triumph. And nobody saw, therefore, that where Marxism triumphs, bigotry, hatred and superstition must inevitably triumph in its wake.

Of course, there are important insights in the writings of Marx, as in the writings of Nietzsche, say, or Jean-Paul Sartre. A theologian who wishes to be of his time, and not just in it, must be open to influence from such secular visionaries. But the real question remains: where comes our faith and our authority? The Church's answer must always be the same: not from this world, but from another.

Let us be thankful that a Christian leader has at last affirmed the self-evident truth, that poverty, inequality and "exploitation" are legacies of original sin, whereas the Marxist determination to abolish them involves a new sin of our own. The author is editor of *The Salisbury Review*.

Peter Kellner

## Beside the seaside - or Battersea?

which, though short of money, spends thousands of pounds each year taking a large part of its London-based staff to the seaside. Ah, London. When it comes to geography, as opposed to economics, I am an unrepentant capitalist. It is easier and quicker for more people to get to London than anywhere else in Britain. Many conference-goers, including each party's headquarters staff, already live there, so the costs of holding the conference would be dramatically reduced.

Many other people who do not live in London have friends or relatives who do, and could be asked to provide a bed for conference week. And for those who choose to spend their evenings doing something other than attend fringe meetings, or who wish to stay on for a few days after the conference has ended, there is a greater variety of both mainstream and minority culture to enjoy than probably anywhere else in Europe.

Above all, London is where power lies. The home of Parliament, the Civil Service and most of Britain's big corporations and trade unions. Political parties that are serious about power should be drawn to where it is exercised, not retreat to the country's impotent edges.

The conventional response to this is to say that in London more power is concentrated, but that is wrong: Britain is far too centralized a nation, or group of nations, parties should demonstrate their commitment to spreading power by getting away from the capital and out into the "real" world where the policies of the government, especially this one, coincide with the aspirations of ordinary people.

I question this argument on two grounds. The first is that, whatever happens at party conferences, communication at any serious level with the local inhabitants is not one of them. This is not because party officials or conference delegates or visiting journalists are necessarily aloof and blinkered: it is simply that they are, quite properly, preoccupied with communicating with one another.

The second reason is that nobody who wanted to locate a party conference in the midst of Britain's run-down industry or inner-city tensions would pick Blackpool, even less Brighton. If Toxteth or Glasgow or Consett were chosen, I could appreciate the reason. As it is, I am spending this week in Blackpool wishing I was somewhere more sensible - somewhere like the site of the 1944 party conference, which prepared the ground for Labour's great post-war victory: Central Hall, Westminster.

The author is political editor of the *New Statesman*.





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## A HAUNTING VOTE

Mr Eric Hammond, the leader of the Electricians Union, who was booed and hissed even before he reached the rostrum at Blackpool yesterday said almost everything that needed to be said to and about the Labour Conference. "The cult of violence will haunt this movement for years to come," At this point he was drowned in a wave of hostility until Mr Eric Hoffer, from the Chair, appealed for him to be heard on the grounds (advanced, it seemed without intended irony) that it was a Labour Conference which had basic tolerance. That is about the last description that could be rationally applied to the mood of the Conference yesterday which greeted Mr Scargill with a prolonged standing ovation and threw itself not simply behind the miners' industrial case in this dispute, but also behind the NUM leader's intimidatory methods of seeking to win it.

Mr Tony Benn also made it absolutely clear when he answered the debate for the national executive committee yesterday that the party's leadership had no words of criticism against Mr Scargill. The NEC (in spite of Mr Kinnock's tactical misgivings) had endorsed the NUM's motion as it stood, including the assertion that the government's policies involved unlawful actions by the police, organized violence against the miners and the unconstitutional use of a nationally controlled police force. In case anybody should have any doubts about where the NEC stood Mr Benn officially declared the party's position. There was no criticism of the NUM for its handling of the dispute; no criticism of the miners who had been "provoked" to violence; no wish to nudge them towards compro-

mise. To Mr Benn, the miners were fighting for everyone from the young unemployed to the blacks harassed by police, and including "us all".

Yesterday's session on the miners' strike and police harassment left no doubt about how the activists who now control the Labour Party see this dispute. Any claim that the miners were striking in the NUM's interests was renounced by Mr Scargill himself; they were, he said, fighting not for the NUM but "against the whole concept of this government's economic policy". In other words, it was nakedly a political strike, and nobody minded that Mr Scargill had manipulated it with insurrectionist methods. To counter the public's rejection of these methods virtually every speaker yesterday stood truth on its head with the honourable exceptions of Mr Hammond, and, in his more gingerly way, of Mr Bassett who advised the conference to keep it as an industrial dispute.

Ficket line violence was extenuated on the grounds that (in the words of Mr Ron Todd, of the Transport Workers) there are many forms of violence other than cuts and bruises: there was the "economic violence that destroys jobs" and "the state violence" which put pressure on miners' families. Mr Ray Buckton of ASLEF said that "the kind of violence" he was opposed to was that "against our ordinary working class people". The rhetoric of the day presented it as a class struggle in which batons and "Gestapo-type methods" were used. One striking miner, moving a resolution on the police actually offered "greetings from the police state of Nottinghamshire" and said that those who criticized the miners were

"condemning the finest class warriors this movement has seen for many years".

Some who think that they have seen it all before at Labour Conferences may assume that all this is no more than the latest outburst of conference rhetoric that has no significance for the real world outside. That would be to misunderstand the mood of the activists, their connexion with the events that every citizen now sees on his television screens and their ability to control Mr Kinnock and his colleagues, who can now hardly resist them. It cannot be a matter of indifference that there was no demand from the Labour leadership for violence on the picket lines to be stopped. It cannot be of no significance that even the Shadow Home Secretary Mr Gerald Kaufman felt obliged to say that Mrs Thatcher was the real author of violence because she had provoked the coal strike.

When reason is given no hearing and falsehood masquerades as truth, when a man such as Mr Scargill is the hero of the day, then it must follow that Labour is in very bad shape as a candidate for office. Mr Hammond warned the Conference that electorally the Labour Party would pay for its attitude to violence. If it were not so the prospect for democracy in Britain would indeed be fraught with danger.

A persistent theme yesterday was the media's distortion of the miners' strike. It is a great pity that television cannot run in full, and without comment, yesterday's debate in prime viewing time so that every citizen could see for himself what Labour has now come to. Mr Kinnock will have a hard task to restore credibility to his party when he speaks today.

## POOR RELATIONS FOR POOR RELATIONS

As Mr Gromyko commuted between New York and Washington last week, Herr Erich Honecker must have reflected ruefully on his own aborted visit to the West. What is permitted to Jove is not permitted to an ally. Together, the visit which Moscow ordered and the visit which Moscow stopped say something important about the future of central Europe.

Over the last year there has been a significant disparity between the tone of Soviet foreign policy pronouncements on the one hand, and those of East European states (with Czechoslovakia a dour exception) on the other. Moscow has presented the deployment of new Nato missiles in Western Europe as an almost apocalyptic catastrophe, walked out of arms control talks, and unilaterally declared a nuclear winter in east-west relations. East Berlin, Budapest, Bucharest, Warsaw and even Sofia have preferred to talk of damage limitations after the Nato deployment, of the need for a continued political dialogue with "responsible forces" in the West, and of their heart-felt desire for more Western trade and credits.

To describe this as "defiance" of Moscow would be a dire oversimplification. In the light of all we know about Soviet-East European relations it is quite implausible to suppose that Herr Honecker did not have some backing from Moscow for his planned visit to West Germany.

Nor would the Hungarian press have supported him against the first broadcast from Pravda, unless Janos Kadar too had a sense of this Soviet backing. The humiliating public muddle in which Honecker was then compelled to cancel his trip reflected the weakness, confusion and indecision of Soviet leaders - or possibly, differences of view between them. It was just this lack of a single clear line from Moscow which earlier enabled East European leaders to pursue their divergent policies. Given the chance, most East European governments do currently look for better relations with Western Europe, especially where it is to their economic advantage. To this extent, West European policies towards Eastern Europe have borne fruit.

But Moscow is reasserting its control. Having themselves done their best to woo Western Europe away from the United States, Soviet leaders now suspect that the West might be wooing Eastern Europe away from the Soviet Union. The Kohl Government has unfortunately fuelled this suspicion, by continuing the "mini detente" with East Germany while talking far more assertively than its social-liberal predecessor, about the long term perspective of German reunification. The bogey of German revanchism has therefore been revived with a vengeance in Moscow. With the 40th anniversary of the VE day and the renewal of the Warsaw Pact

treaty due next year, East Europeans are to be forcefully reminded of the Germanic horrors from which Soviet power is still supposedly protecting them. Meanwhile, Bonn is to be made to see that the road to East Berlin leads via Moscow. East European leaders cannot expect permission to pursue better relations with Western Europe until Soviet leaders have sorted out their own relations with the Americans - and perhaps with each other. That is unlikely to happen soon.

This year will therefore have shown both the possibilities and the limits of a semi-autonomous East-West European diplomacy. We have seen that, given the chance, East European governments may incline towards closer political and economic relations with Western Europe - an inclination which, if properly encouraged, can also be to our advantage. But we have also seen how little chance they may be given. It was always unrealistic to suppose that a mini-detente in central Europe could somehow lead the way back to global East-West detente. Though the wishes of West European powers may sometimes sway the counsels of the Kremlin's calculations. For better or for worse, the state of relations between Eastern and Western Europe still depends on the state of relations between the super powers - and not vice versa.

## HOW LONG THE LANGE HONEYMOON?

New Zealand, traditionally worried over butter, has recently sounded more concerned about guns. For better or for worse its present preoccupation with, or rather against, nuclear weapons is propelling its new prime minister, Mr David Lange towards a left-central position among world leaders.

Mr Lange, who ended a four-day official visit to this country last night, swept to power in the July election, largely by promising the people an end to the combative politics of his predecessor and political opponent Sir Robert Muldoon, and the start of a new era in socio-industrial relationships. In this respect at least he has made a good beginning.

An opinion poll a week ago which gave him a 70 per cent approval rating - rather higher than at the time of his election, reflected the careful, pragmatic approach with which he has entered office. On the one hand he has shown a respect for economic orthodoxy which has won the confidence of the banking and business community - for the time being anyway. On the other, his concern for social priorities and the plight of the unemployed in particular, has secured a promise of wage restraint and cooperation from the unions who

helped him to power. Young, stylish, while identifiable Antipodean, he is the very model of a modern Labour minister.

How long will the honeymoon last? His administration has inherited severe economic difficulties including a sizeable budget deficit, rising inflation which is expected to reach double figures next year, balance of payments problems, increasing unemployment and a bigish foreign debt for a country of New Zealand's size and population. All this - and in an age of creeping protectionism which will call for continuing energy and skill to market its national dairy products. As one of its ministers said the other day, not only did they find the cupboard bare but the cupboard itself had gone.

These economic problems will make it difficult for Mr Lange to satisfy the aspirations of his party's left wing, whose patience will not last for ever. This in turn will allow him little room for manoeuvre overseas where he seems to be heading for some kind of confrontation with Washington and possibly with Canberra too. He insisted the other day in London that his government's determination to refuse port visits to all ships carrying - or suspected of carrying - nuclear weapons,

represented his own views too and that it had long been party policy. But the realities of power may soon make him regret that it is so. The United States, the most obviously affected allied nation, is important to New Zealand in economic as well as military terms.

New Zealand's security relationship with the United States is codified by the ANZUS pact - Australia being the other partner - which for 33 years has linked the Antipodes to the Western alliance. Mr Lange insists with equal vigour that his government is not anti-alliance or anti-American - only anti-nuclear. The result of left-wing pressure however is that he has been saddled with the task of re-negotiating the pact to dilute its military character - if only to accommodate his country's nuclear reservations.

In this he is likely to find some help in Washington where the State Department is not entirely unused to coping with governments which are on the horns of a political dilemma. New Zealand, while living in a "pocket of tranquillity" (Mr Lange's own phrase) remains an important outpost of the West in the Pacific, - thought by some strategists to be the next scene for East-West confrontation.

## True position of Durban six

From Dr C. F. Forsyth

Sir, Mr J. A. Broom (September 28) argues that the affair of the Durban six is an abuse of diplomatic privilege since "we would... be outraged" if a foreign embassy in London offered "refuge to six British citizens wanted for questioning in connection with a civil disturbance" in the United Kingdom.

But Mr Broom seems unaware of a fact that largely destroys his argument. The Durban six are being sought in terms of section 28 of the Internal Security Act of 1982, which provides for preventive detention, not for interrogation. If the six were being sought for interrogation section 29 would have been used.

Interrogation at the hands of the South African police has frequently proved fatal, so the six may take some comfort in the fact that, if seized from the consulate, they will not be subjected to its rigours. But for present purposes the absence of a desire to interrogate the six shows that even the authorities do not think that they have committed a crime or are in possession of information about crime. All that they have done is to express in clear but non-violent terms their rejection of the new South African constitution. And that is not yet against the law.

The six, therefore, are not wretched fugitives from their just deserts but persons being persecuted for the expression of their political beliefs. As such they have nothing in common with the criminal who seeks refuge in an embassy (as Mr Broom would have us believe) or the accused person who flees the country in order to avoid standing trial for "Pik" Botha would have us believe).

Yours faithfully,  
C. F. FORSYTH,  
Robinson College,  
Cambridge.  
September 28.

## 'Pegging' BBC fee

From Sir Robert Lusty

Sir, Of course it would be possible to "peg" the licence fee of the BBC (report, September 26) if its facilities were to be thrown open to advertisers. It is neither an original nor an ingenious proposition.

It would be equally possible to "peg" the cost of many things by selling away many aspects of what in the past we have liked to regard as part of our heritage. The freedom of the BBC as a public-service broadcasting corporation has long been accepted as such. To surrender it would be regarded by many as a folly of the greatest magnitude.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT LUSTY,  
The Old Silk Mill,  
Blockley,  
Moreton-in-Marsh,  
Gloucestershire.

## A good read

From Professor Richard Cobb, FBA

Sir, It was with some surprise that I read today (September 24) under "Publishing", by E. J. Craddock, on the subject of the Booker McConnell prize, that I "admit(s) to having spent two hours with each book, long or short... Amis *per se* et filis used up a whole morning...".

If I did, indeed, possess such an enviable gift I could have got through my list of reading at about three weeks, rather than in the 80 days or so of hard summer slog that it took me.

I did not dispose of the two Amises in a single morning. For one thing, they did not come in at the same time, as far as I can recall, Kingsley Amis's book took me a bit over a day.

As Mr Craddock knows, some novels are short, others are very long, so that it would be difficult to lay down an average reading time.

I cannot help being an elderly chairman, but I rather resent the implication that I have been, and am, a frivolous one. I have found the experience interesting, certainly, but also burdensome.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD COBB,  
Worcester College,  
Oxford.  
September 24.

## Moving house

From the President of The Law Society

Sir, Your editorial today (September 26) mis-states the arguments of The Law Society on two important points.

The Law Society did not, as you state, give evidence to the Farrand committee that the introduction of licensed conveyancers might "reduce rather than increase competition and might destroy a nationwide network of legal services to the public". That statement was made in relation to licensed conveyancers - with whom we are well able to compete on fair terms - but direct to the Government in relation to the proposal that banks and building societies should be allowed to do conveyancing. That is a very different matter where we could be faced with unfair competition, which could well lead to the consequences which we fear.

Nor has it been The Law Society's argument that conveyancing sub-

## Contradictions in miners' message

From Professor Emeritus Thomas Wilson, FBA

Sir, Mr Arthur Scargill's mastery of Newspeak is so impressive as to make him the outstanding Orwellian personality of 1984. When he asserts that the NUM is a democratic union, this means "democratic" in the East European sense. When he claims to be defending the coal industry, this means he is defending the captive British users of coal and of the industry itself.

When he says he is ready to negotiate, this means he is ready to accept the unconditional surrender of the other side. When he complains that Britain is a police state, this means the police should acquiesce in violent intimidation. When he poses as the defender of trade union rights, this means he is pursuing a strategy that would ultimately result in their being made totally subservient to communist-type authority.

His condemnation of Solidarity is an illustration of this attitude. The behaviour of his "red guards" affords a preliminary indication of the methods to be followed.

There is another aspect of militant Marxist policy that deserves particular attention. This is the perpetuation of conditions in which it would be impossible to cure the mass unemployment of which they complain. Sympathy for the striking miners has naturally been strengthened by the malaise caused by the general lack of jobs, although there will not, in fact, be involuntary redundancies in the coal industry. Moreover the Government, for its part, has given the unhelpful impression of being content with an Aquinian policy of "wait and see".

Employment could, in fact, be greatly increased notwithstanding the much discussed problems of "post-industrial society" as has been demonstrated so strikingly in recent years in the USA. For this to be achieved, however, it would be essential to have structural change in industry of the kind being so fiercely resisted by Mr Scargill.

It would also be essential to ensure that increases in monetary expenditure did not continue to be so dissipated in rising costs and prices that the rise in output was too small to have much effect on the demand for labour. For a high level of employment can be regained only if, by whatever means, increases in pay are restrained. This is one that, even today, is sometimes conveyed by the dying voices of the Labour right. But the left will have none of it. There must be no restraint - whatever the party in power.

It is not to be inferred that the militants, of whom Mr Scargill is

now by far the most prominent, are too stupid to perceive that their various demands are contradictory. It is rather that, with basic aims quite different from those of the democratic reformers, these contradictions are part of the strategy. To be fair, they have never claimed to be revisionists. They seek to subvert, not to remedy, the present social order.

If capitalism fails to generate the fatal contradictions predicted by Marxist theory, it must be provided with them. A "Catch 22" situation must be deliberately created. Unemployment must be denounced as a social evil but perpetuated as a cause of social unrest. The New Keynesianism must be blocked and defeated just as much as monetarism.

It is of some importance, in the present situation, that the essential features of Mr Scargill's strategy should be widely understood. Natural concern about unemployment should provide an impetus for constructive action but must not be exploited for the benefit of a totalitarian cause.

Yours faithfully,  
THOMAS WILSON,  
University of Glasgow,  
Department of Political Economy,  
Adam Smith Building,  
Glasgow.  
September 28.

From Professor Lord Bauer, FBA

Sir, Lord Kaldor (September 29) is critical of closing uneconomic pits without considering differences between private and social cost and the loss of external economies. He accuses the Prime Minister of "lamentable ignorance" for neglecting such calculations.

This argument can be invoked for subsidising virtually any activity, old or new, from horse-drawn transport and the pre-1914 rail network to universal space travel. Any practical assessment of current or prospective externalities and differences between private and social costs involves large arbitrary elements.

Such concepts may be valuable as analytical tools. They can offer little guidance for deciding to continue massive public subsidies for particular activities. That is why reliable calculations have rarely been presented.

Such calculations would need to state clearly the optimum level of output for British coal, the associated estimate for increased subsidies, the resulting effect on fuel prices and imports, and the implication for unemployment elsewhere of higher taxes or more expensive fuel supplies for British industry.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER BAUER,  
House of Lords,  
October 1.

## Legal issue in Nacods ballot

From Professor Lord Wedderburn of Charlton, FBA

Sir, Your report today (September 29) claims the Nacods (National Association of Colliery Overmen, Exploiters and Shooters) ballot may be invalid because it is a strike call by a union which therefore loses legal "immunity" by reason of the Trade Union Act 1984. If correct, this judgment serves to illustrate the futility and injustice of those provisions of the Act that are not yet a week old.

The new law destroys "immunity" (that is - if, like Mr Balfour, we talk "English not law" the right lawfully to withdraw labour) if a union ballot paper fails to draw attention to the fact that a strike will be in breach of the employment contracts of members involved. Indeed, the Act demands that the question of breach of contract must be put to members even if the proposed industrial action is not a breach, but only an "interference" with their employment contracts (such as an abstention from voluntary overtime).

If this requirement to put loaded questions is not satisfied, those who suffer loss can sue the union and its officials for injunctions and for damages. But, as you suggest, few employers are likely to do so, certainly if they take more than a short-term view of industrial relations.

Like its predecessors of 1980 and 1982, the 1984 Act contributes nothing to the settlement of public. That statement was made in relation to the Farrand committee in relation to licensed conveyancers - with whom we are well able to compete on fair terms - but direct to the Government in relation to the proposal that banks and building societies should be allowed to do conveyancing. That is a very different matter where we could be faced with unfair competition, which could well lead to the consequences which we fear.

Nor has it been The Law Society's argument that conveyancing sub-

disputes. These statutes are concerned with the punishment of trade unions and with the rhetoric of conflict, not with its causes. They do not even assist negotiation. Even if a union ballot, for example, negotiates the maze of the 1984 law's requirements, the union is given only four weeks in which to negotiate; after that, whatever its own rules say, it must repeat the ballot.

The 1980s legislation has contributed to a disrespect for law and for the courts that have to administer it. No other major western European system of labour law today places upon its citizens' civil liberty to withdraw labour the restrictions imposed by the new British statutes.

The key distinction between most of those systems and our law is their recognition that a right to strike logically imports a right for workers to suspend their employment contracts in ordinary industrial action, rather than breaking those contracts as our law insists. When the autocratic legislation of the 1980s is repealed, we must confront anew that key issue as part of a restoration of basic industrial liberties, within a social accord which seeks consensus rather than confrontation and which understands that crippling disputes about jobs cannot be remedied in the High Court.

Yours sincerely,  
WEDDERBURN OF CHARLTON,  
29 Woodside Avenue,  
Highgate, N6,  
September 29.

dises other kinds of legal work. It is the volume of conveyancing work which enables many small firms to stay in business and do other work. Shoe shops do not subsidise the sale of bootlaces from the sale of shoes, but they would not be able to stay open to sell laces if they did not sell enough shoes.

Yours faithfully,  
ARTHUR HOOLE, President,  
The Law Society,  
President's Room,  
The Law Society's Hall,  
Chancery Lane, WC2.

inter-personal relations to the level of global politics and ideological conflict.

It is claimed that peace studies courses are politically motivated, that their methodology amounts to political indoctrination masquerading as education and free discussion, and that the overall effect is a malign campaign of disinformation.

This criticism can only be tenable if one starts from the viewpoint condemned in the article's first paragraph, that education is intended to condition the minds of the young to accept the existing system, damming all others.

There is no doubt that peace education asks young people to face some fundamental and important questions about themselves and their society, as all good education ought to do, but there is precious little evidence that existing courses demand of their students that they make particular, one-sided responses to these questions.

The central focus of peace education is the recognition of differences and the peaceful resolu-

tion of conflicts, which implies a thoroughly open-minded view of people's opinions and ideologies, not a rigid insistence on politically determined right and wrong answers.

Most significantly, at a public conference entitled "Educating People for Peace" as recently as March this year, the charge of indoctrination was specifically rejected by the member of her Majesty's Inspectorate whose responsibilities include political and peace education and who therefore have as complete and informed an overview of the field as anyone can expect to have.

Yours sincerely,  
ROBERT CREIGHTON,  
Secretary,  
Standing Conference on Education for International Understanding,  
c/o Extramural Division,  
School of Oriental and African Studies,  
Malet Street, WC1,  
September 25.

## No loopholes in rabies policy

From Mr B. M. Williams

Sir, I refer to your Science Correspondent's article on September 27 about the rabies risk from mink.

The "loopholes" in this country's rabies control policy, suggested by Dr James Dunlop, do not exist. I am concerned that by including reptiles, amphibians and particularly, horses, in our import controls, there is a serious risk rabies entering this country. The can be no justification for it quarantining any of these groups. There is no scientific evidence suggest that reptiles and amphibians are susceptible to rabies.

Rabies import controls are designed to prevent animals of humans in this country from becoming infected with rabies. Although all mammals are susceptible to the disease, quarantine only imposed on those animals likely to become infected or to infect other animals or humans. Generally speaking, it is carnivores that are responsible for the transmission of rabies to animals, and it is mainly the dog or cat which infects human through biting or scratching.

Horses, in common with ruminants and swine, present no serious risk of spreading disease (the 2 cases quoted by Dr Dunlop represent only around 0.5 per cent of cases reported in Europe in a given period). In addition, the present even less of a risk in the country because they are imported subject to veterinary health certification (including freedom from rabies), which includes veterinary examination prior to import.

As an additional safeguard, th rabies regulations require any horse to enter quarantine if, whilst being imported into this country, it come into contact with any animals to which the full range of control would apply.

The point is reinforced by the fact that a high proportion of horse which move between Great Britain and Europe are thoroughbreds and competition horses which, because of constant supervision, are extremely unlikely to be exposed to the disease.

These regulations are considered to be fully adequate for the purpose of protecting animals and humans in this country. The only threat to these are breached in any way.

Yours faithfully,  
B. M. WILLIAMS,  
Assistant Chief Veterinary Officer,  
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food,  
Hook Rise South,  
Telworth,  
Salisbury,  
September 28.

## Post Office monopoly

From the Executive Director of the Mail Users' Association

Sir, In his letter of September 18 the new Chairman of the Post Office Users' National Council confused the issues of the letter monopoly with privatization and liberalization. It is quite possible, and probably desirable, to relax the letter monopoly while leaving the Post Office intact. The letter mechanization programme has been badly mismanaged and provides no argument for supporting the monopoly.

The mechanization of letter sorting was scheduled to be complete over ten years ago. Customers have received nothing from the programme apart from inconvenience, higher costs and worse service. It was clear from the outset that the mechanization programme would reduce service, but that was not revealed to the public. On the other hand Post Office staff benefited. Management obtained numerous extra senior posts and the basic grades received a generous lead in payment.

The recent Monopolies and Mergers Commission report reveals that post code use was still below the target scheduled for achievement in 1970 and that staff savings, originally envisaged at over ten thousand and revised downwards to six thousand in 1976, are now being forecast at well under five thousand. However, customers should be aware that half of the staff savings will be made over to the remaining staff. The savings available to benefit customers will therefore be barely two per cent of the wage bill, a figure far too small to meet the capital outlay on equipment and buildings.

Thus, far from being a reason to defend the Post Office monopoly, the mechanization programme provides a startling example of the problems caused for customers by the combination of a monopoly supplier of services with a monopoly supply of labour.

Yours faithfully,  
M. E. CORBY,  
Executive Director,  
Mail Users' Association Ltd.,  
Communications House,  
137 Dulwich Road, SE24.

## Hash House Harriers

From Mr P. M. Peabody

Sir, I am delighted to see from The Times of September 26 that the Hash House Harriers are established in Moscow. They were not originally formed by diplomats in Malaysia but by a group who lived in the Selangor Club Chambers about 1937/38.

They were instrumental, during the Malaysia emergency, in providing information to M15 as to the whereabouts of bandits in the jungle. Yours truly,  
PHILIP PEABODY,  
7 The Liberty,  
Wells,  
Somerset.  
September 27.







## Solving the mystery: Page 18

## COMPUTER HORIZONS

Edited by MATTHEW MAY

## Illiterate in the Red Army: Page 18



The Times and Hewlett-Packard announce today the first editorial awards for the UK computer press, with prizes worth more than £7,000, in recognition of the growing importance of British computer journalism.

A team of judges from national journalism and the computer industry will adjudicate. Their aim will be to establish standards of excellence within this rapidly growing segment of the specialised press. The awards will be made at a dinner at Claridge's.

The five categories and the awards are:

- Computer Journalist of the Year (News): an HP110 Portable computer, a Thinkjet printer, and an inscribed plaque.
- Computer Journalist of the Year (Features): an HP110 Portable computer, a Thinkjet printer, and an inscribed plaque.
- Computer Photographer of the Year: £1,000 worth of photographic equipment (the photographer's choice) and an inscribed plaque.
- Computer Journal of the Year: an inscribed trophy to the editor and a case of champagne.
- Best-Designed Journal of the Year: an inscribed trophy to the nominee of the Editor and a case of champagne.

The 1984 competition is open to British professional journalists and photographers whose work appears in any UK specialist publication that features technology or computing subjects.

Entries for 1984 awards must have been published between January 1 and October 31 1984. They may be submitted in two ways. Editors may nominate journalists on their staff, or journalists (including freelancers) may submit entries for themselves, providing the rules and entry procedures are observed.

Entries must be submitted by October 31, 1984. Entry forms, brochures and rules and regulations for the competition can be obtained from:

UK Computer Press Awards Organiser,  
Hinsley Associates,  
20/22 Craven Road,  
London W2 3PX

For more information, please contact Roger Payne, Hewlett-Packard on 0344 424898 or Hinsley Associates on 01-402 3347.

The role being played by the IT industry in education, training and general research development was under scrutiny last week from almost every source except the industry itself. The conclusions from those non-industrial sources were none too flattering to the high technology sector which is becoming increasingly sluggish in its performance and embarrassingly mean in the resources it is prepared to allocate to training.

The first broadside was fired by the Manpower Services Commission which shocked the world of computer users by concluding that 40 per cent of companies had no formal training for their staff. The MSC had surveyed 3,000 employers of computer personnel and concluded that insufficient training existed and that the selection procedures of personnel suitable for training were inappropriate.

The report concluded: "As far as training was concerned, the lack of appropriate personal qualities was ranked as the major deficiency in recruiting. The interview remains the method of selection most widely used and approved, although assessment of personal qualities is seen as a major concern in recruitment for all job-trainees or experienced staff."

### Industry may not gain by these responsibilities

"Despite this emphasis on personal qualities there is no evidence, apart from the general interview, of any systematic attempt to assess these qualities."

"Similarly although aptitude tests were ranked as the second most important factor, only 50 per cent of the sample reported they were using any tests, and hardly any were using a form of work sample in selection."

The depressing NCS report was

# Information training: why are we falling behind?

The findings not only shocked the industrialists to which the report referred but educationalists, particularly those who had advocated industry should play a greater role in education and training. If the MSC report is any measure then it has

## THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone

become obvious that industry might not benefit to have such responsibilities.

In the wake of recent reports warning the Government - yet again - of the critical shortage of high technology manpower the focus was put on industry. Industry would be the saviour and provide finance and facilities that have not been provided in the past. The MSC report has made a number of proponents of the "industrial solution" a little anxious.

It was industry which was to provide the impetus - possibly by awarding contracts - for the supply of much needed engineers. It would even be industry which would fund a new technological university. The MSC report indicates that industry appears to be struggling adequately to fulfill its responsibilities without volunteering for any more.

The depressing NCS report was

followed by the publication of the response of the Engineering Council to the University Grants Committee's report, published in mid-September. The council want a 10 per cent swing away from arts to engineering science, about £100m more a year to be spent on the creation of more course places for engineers, for industry to liaise more with academia and vice versa and for industry to be prepared to fund further training, usually in the form of refresher or retraining courses. The switch from engineering to arts would mean the 55 per cent of student places would be devoted to science based engineering places.

That strategy would be a historic and imaginative move to help Britain arrest a growing multi-million pound IT trade deficit and attempt to match the number of engineers being produced by the UK's principal industrial rivals.

About 8,000 professional engineers are produced in Britain each year - a poor performance when measured against the 70,000 of Japan, 60-68,000 of the United States, 30,000 in France and about 15,000 in Germany. Is it right therefore to depend on industry so much?

Dr Jack Williams director of productivity technology and innovation from the US Department of Commerce, on a visit to London last week, gave us a glimpse of what it could be like if Britain emulated the US. The examples encouraged the

proponents of more British industrial participation. The list was impressive.

• The university-industry connection is very diverse: contracts, grants, gifts, purchase orders, loans of equipment or facilities, discounts on materials, personnel exchanges, scholarships and consulting arrangements.

• IBM had about 400 collaborative projects with 100 universities where technical problems of common interest are studied.

• Reasons given by US companies for cooperation with universities, access to manpower, access to the technology, problem solving, information, prestige and the economical use of corporate/academic resources.

The marriage of industry and academia encouraging the transfer of personnel is commonplace in the United States and one of the favoured options of the Engineering Council.

The American envoy last week highlighted many such successes - Carnegie Mellon on robotics, Case Western on applied polymers, MIT in manufacturing technology, North Carolina State in communications and Stanford in integrated systems.

The result is not only more effective R&D but the creation of an atmosphere in which engineers, scientists, computer technologists can be better trained. The professors will be able to "commute" between academia and industry fertilising research, selling innovations to

industry but above all ensuring that they are practising technologists who can teach their students the ways of the real world not just scientific theory.

The switch required by the Engineering Council would make the industry-academic marriage even more vital. More than 4,000 new engineering places would be created each year but those students would then require more facilities for non-academic training - a factor which is vital in the education of technologists. Allowing their professors the opportunities to keep up to date is equally important. Again the principal role belongs to industry. It is vital for Britain to get the formula right.

British industry will have to get its own house in order and then respond to the challenge.

### A time for analysis and self-criticism

In the light of last week's reports it is time for industry to conduct its own analysis and self-criticism.

It may then be able to produce a valuable strategy of its own without feeling coerced by others. It is long overdue.

\* *Strategy for higher education into the 1990s: University Grants Committee, Manpower Services Commission, Training and selection of computer personnel.*

A grant of £120,000 has been made by the Computer Board for Universities and Research Councils to Exeter University to develop student workstations in the arts faculty, not to Essex University as stated on September 11.

# IBM buys into the front again

By Kevin Pearson

Last week IBM completed a move which it believes will take it into the forefront of telecommunications. The American computer giant bought the remaining 77 per cent it did not own of the US private branch exchange manufacturer, Rolm.

Just over a year ago, IBM purchased 23 per cent of Rolm's shares, taking their first step in telecommunications. Since then it has announced its intention to launch a local area network, and both a network for linking personal computers together and one for use on the factory floor, linking robots and computers. It has also launched a cabling system for wiring buildings for future communications in data, voice and image.

There is also IBM's proprietary networking system, Systems Network Architecture (SNA), which will be used as the basis for the joint IBM/British Telecom venture to set up a national information network.

But what has been lacking is a digital, fully integrated voice and data private branch exchange (pbx). Rolm was meant to provide that. IBM has been trying to develop such a system for many years, but has failed. Rolm, alone with companies such as American Telephone & Telegraph (AT&T) and Northern Telecom, has been at the forefront of pbx design.

Rolm was expected to launch the first fruits of its joint work with IBM within the next few weeks, and that could have secured IBM on to approach Rolm with a view to total takeover. The initial 23 per cent was just a test, and barely significant in terms of IBM's total business. The company appears to be sure that Rolm can deliver the system, and that was enough to make IBM take over the company - the first for 25 years.

But IBM's move could also have been precipitated by other events: the investment by AT&T in Italy's Olivetti and the more recent merger between ICL and Standard Telephone Cables.

IBM's takeover of Rolm is different, however. The two have been working together for over a year and are poised to launch the first product of their collaboration. It is a proven partnership, not one which has still to be tested.

With industry moving rapidly towards convergence Rolm thought it would be best served by allying itself closely with the dominant computer supplier.

# America and Japan: why the chips are down

By Chris Rowley

Microchips are going into every imaginable kind of product these days and the pressures to succeed are getting ever more fierce. The big American companies are vying with each other for this year's business, the while keeping an eye on the Japanese.

Making silicon chips without defects is still a tricky business. It requires "clean rooms" for manufacture that have dust levels a thousand times lower than a modern hospital operating room. Making chips is an enormously complex process and defects can crop up anywhere along the line.

Thus semiconductor customers usually pay extra to ensure that the chips they get have been through tests with up to 200 steps. The chips have been baked and/or frozen and still shown to work.

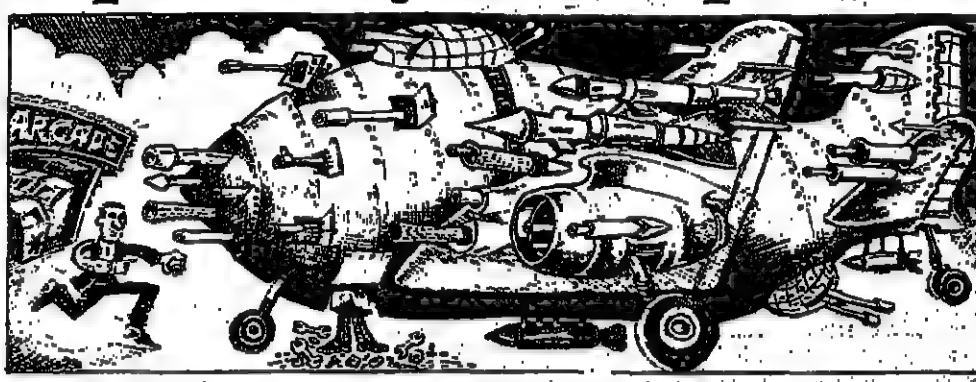
One of the biggest customers in the world for chips is the

Pentagon. Defence work is eagerly sought after by US chip manufacturers. But getting a contract and delivering the chips without defects are not exactly the same thing. In March this year National Semiconductor pleaded guilty to delivering chips to the department without putting them through the department's rigid specifications tests.

National Semiconductor received a £1.4m fine.

This month it is the turn of Texas Instruments to receive public criticism from the Pentagon. Some TI chips, made in Taiwan and supposed to have been tested in TI's Midland, Texas, plant, did not undergo all the tests they should have. Thus potentially flammable chips have now been put into computer systems for the F-15 fighter and the B1 bomber.

Texas Instruments react angrily to the charge. "We have



yet to find one defective product". Max Post, a company spokesman, said. Other observers of the US industry sympathize with Texas Instruments, noting that this is not an isolated incident.

They noted also that the American chip makers have made great strides in improving manufacturing conditions and imposing stringent testing pro-

cedures. No longer is it true that the worst Japanese-made chips have six times fewer defects than the best American ones. Now, in fact, US companies are achieving similar defect ratios to the Japanese.

In addition some critics of the Pentagon put the blame on a lack of supervision of what is a complex manufacturing process of some of the most vital components of American weaponry.

Military sales however are just one slice of the pie. For example, microchips are transforming simple instruments like the telephone into fantastic communications devices with built-in answering and autodial-

ling capability, not to mention redialling and interfacing with computers. The phone and the microcomputer have just about merged in some recently released AT&T terminals.

Modern American automobiles are also soaking up microchips as fast as the engineers can fit them in. A mid-priced auto from General Motors now has 6 microchips. A luxury model has about 12, handling everything from precise mixture of gas and air in the engine to temperature control, fore and aft parking sensors and engine self diagnosis of mechanical troubles.

Still, the biggest piece of the action goes to the chip maker

with the best-selling microprocessor of each succeeding generation. The Japanese have taken over the market for such mass produced items as 64K dynamic RAM chips. Their market domination of the next round, the 256K RAMs is even greater. In 1984 of \$50 million units sold of the 64K RAMs the Japanese had 54 per cent. Of the 256K RAM market the Japanese had 90 per cent.

However profits are low on relatively simple RAM chips. The more complex microprocessors are where the money lies. Even here, though, the pressure on margins is growing intense.

The Motorola 68000 chip, which is the heart of the Macintosh and Lisa computers from Apple was selling for £160 four years ago. Today it's down to £16 and still falling.

At the moment, the competition seems set between Motorola and Intel for domination of the next stage of the microchip's evolution, the 32 bit chip.

Gordon Moore, Chairman at Intel, says: "We keep looking over our shoulder at the Japanese. We are scared to death they will get something established."

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T2/10/84



## Sir Clive solves the Sinclair turnover mystery

Sir Clive Sinclair has increased his turnover from £25.7m to £77.7m, but why? The explanation from Sir Clive Sinclair was that "the pocket television and the Sinclair computers added to the turnover but little to sales". He said the situation will improve now that the Q.L. is in production and sales figures increasing. The profit figures, which moved from £14.0m to £14.28m, are unlikely to add to Sinclair's credibility in the claim that he will enter into the field of water-gate and other high-generation research, both of which require very large investments.



"Sorry, he's already got one"

### Super computers

Two super-computers made by Fujitsu are to be sold by Amdahl in Europe, the US and Canada. The Amdahl 1100 and 1200 can run IBM 370 software, unlike its closest competitors from Cray Research and Control Data. Amdahl, which is 48.5 per cent owned by Fujitsu, is to charge between £6m and £10m for the new machines.

### Software sell

The headaches involved in choosing microcomputer software from the thousands of packages

available are likely to be eased with the publication of an exhaustive book on the subject on October 18. Within the 600 pages of *How to Buy Software* all the main areas of business software are covered, such as operating systems, word processors, spreadsheets, databases and communications software. Written in refreshingly straightforward English the book's only drawback is that being American, certain UK software products are not covered. *How to Buy Software*, by Alfred Glassmeyer, is published by Papernarc; price £10.

## COMPUTER BRIEFING

### Telesoftware sales

The electronic delivery of computer software down the phone line could reduce prices of some software to as little as 50 or 60 per cent, according to Mike Aldrich, chief executive of Rediffusion Computers. He predicts that high street micro and computer games shops will be the first to suffer as the growing sales of communications equipment to go with home micros makes the idea of telesoftware more attractive. One barrier to the growth of such services is the need for low-cost encryption devices or signal converters to ensure that only those entitled to receive a particular telesoftware program would receive it.

### Renting it first

A rental service for computer and electronic equipment has been set up by the Reading-based Sintrom Group with the formation

of a new company, Rental Electronics. Claiming to offer a nationwide service, the firm's product list includes IBM and Hewlett-Packard equipment as well as printers, plotters and colour-graphics terminals. A variety of rental plans are to be offered, from one week's rental through to deferred purchasing and leasing.

### On the other foot

A footwear retailing group, Style Barret Shoes, is to install a point-of-sale system using 255 terminals. It will supply prices for a stock of around 6,000 items, accounting and banking facilities, sales information to head office. An automatic stock replenishment system and the ability to transfer credit transactions to credit-card companies are planned as further developments. K.L.'s 9516 terminals will be used for the system and will be linked to the company's ME20 mainframe.

### UK events

Strathclyde Computer & Business Exhibition, Skan Dhu, Glasgow, today, tomorrow  
Computer Technology Exhibition - Comtec, Newton Aycliffe, co

Durham, tomorrow to Friday  
Computers Graphics EX Exhibition, Wembley, London, tomorrow to Friday  
Applied & Sirius Computer Show, Manchester, October 16-18  
London Business Equipment Exhibition - LBES, Earl's Court, London, October 22-25  
Electron & BBC Micro User Show, Alexandra Palace, London, October 25-28  
Home Tech '84, Exhibition Complex, Bristol, October 26-29  
Computer Security Conference & Exhibition, Conference Centre, Nottingham, October 29-30  
Computers in Action, Anderson Centre, Glasgow, October 30-November 1  
Personal Computer Fair, Town Hall, Bournemouth, Oct 30-Nov 1

### Overseas events

Mini-Minor Northwest and Northern, Seattle, today to Thursday  
Localnet Exhibition, San Diego, October 10-12  
Computers Exhibition, Johannesburg, South Africa, October 24-27  
SE Asian Personal Computer Exhibition Conference - PerComp Asia, Singapore, October 25-November 1

Compiled by Personal Computer News

## Passim may have found its winner

By Roger Woolnough

The people at Passim Computers, a small company in Northampton thought they were on to a winner when they heard about a development by National Semiconductor. The Silicon Valley giant was putting together a device called a multi-function controller - a collection of chips on a single printed-circuit board that would make it easier and faster to run systems by Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC).

Passim was ideally placed to exploit the controller, and had become the first UK distributor for DEC-compatible memory boards. But before Passim had a chance to show its wares with the new product, National decided to stop production. "We went to National and asked whether we could buy it," says Passim's marketing director, Peter Wright. "They licensed us for three years, and after that it comes completely to us."

The multi-function controller, known as the HEX3000, is now not only being made and sold in Britain. Passim is planning a move to Newmarket, and hopes to market it back to the States.

The controller is a fairly specialized bit of electronics wizardry, but can solve problems for DEC operators. To control the disc and tape sub-systems, DEC provides a piece of equipment called the RH11. Even though it also controls a communications device called a multiplexer, the RH11 is quite a large box compared with other examples of electronics hardware.

"Some years ago," explains Wright, "several American companies realized they could get all the electronics on one board, and there are many manufacturers now making single-board controllers."

But this led to another problem. Controllers of this kind do only one job, such as control a disc drive in one particular way. "If a user upgrades his system, the controller has to go," says Wright. Nor is that all. To control the tape sub-systems and the



Peter Wright, marketing director of Passim Computers

multiplexer, additional controller boards are required. As a result, users may end up with as many as six different boards. Passim's HEX3000 simplifies all this by using a single board to combine any two functions of disc drive, tape controller or multiplexer - hence the description "multi-function". By using programs contained in read-only memories, the HEX3000 is instructed to behave in the way the user wants.

For a small company, Passim had invested a lot in the HEX3000, but with a unique product it may have found its winner after all.

## Computer-unread in the Red Army

From Charles Bremner

Moscow - A plea from a Red Army general for computer-literate officers is fresh evidence that human and political problems are holding back the Union in its efforts to catch up on the technological revolution.

"Anyone who thinks that in our age he can manage without modern media and methods of command is suffering from a dangerous delusion," said Major-General V. Ryabchuk, a scientific specialist in *Red Star*, the armed forces' newspaper. He complained about the quality of military computer hardware and urged new training methods to turn out commanders who would be able to use data systems to assist in making their decisions.

His comments followed complaints in the official press about those who are wary of electronic systems, and factory managers reluctant to put their robots to any good use.

Western experts say the public comments reflect growing concern among Russian leaders as their country fails to close a widening "computer gap" that has opened up with the electronic explosion in the western world. But the gap is likely to widen further because, for all the economic benefits it could earn, modern information technology poses a major political dilemma for the Russians.

After a visit to Moscow, Professor Loren Graham, a leading American expert in Russian science, told *The Washington Post*: "It is becoming clear that these machines and their associated culture are challenging some of the basic principles of the Soviet state."

Production has now started on personal computers, though officials say they will not be available for public sale. The main model, called the "agate" is said by Western experts to bear a close resemblance to the Apple II. - Reuters

## Call for a Russian telephone system

In this second part of their article from the Novosti Press Agency, Vladimir Kuzmina and Serge Klepikov conclude the Soviet view on high technology embargoes.

We view trade with the western countries as mutually beneficial. The Soviet Union is willing to buy electronic telephone exchanges for example, not because it does not make them, but because its social programme envisages a rapid growth of the telephone network in the country. Similarly, Soviet industry produces more pipes than the US, West Germany, France, Britain and Canada combined, but the scale on which we are building our gas pipelines is so vast that we buy considerable quantities of pipes every year.

Berthold Beitz, chairman of Krupp, is quoted as saying: "The US embargo policy only stimulates accelerated computer production in these countries." Perhaps the US drive to embargo electronics for the Soviet Union has a subsidiary purpose. For these restrictions, in fact, allow the US to exercise control over the technological development of their NATO allies.

An example of such control is the US Administration's decision that any British company using American technology in computer production (the majority) should ask the US Department of Commerce for permission to export its prod-

ucts to any country. If a company disobeys, it is threatened with a withdrawal of technology and a ban on supplies from the American market. The latest restriction seems to be that any company using American computers must have permission from Washington before it moves a computer from one building to another.

Regarding the military value of western equipment exported to the Soviet Union, the latest example of restrictions is the American ban on the sale to the Soviet Union of a Belgian boring and milling machine. The US appears to have irrefutable knowledge that this equipment can be used in making Soviet missiles. A report produced at the request of the Belgian government disproved all claims that the Soviet Union might have derived military benefit from the equipment. Nonetheless, the American pressure still succeeded in cancelling the deal.

Western European countries and their domestic electronics industries must assess for themselves the possibilities and the prospects of cooperation with the Soviet Union. But they ought to consider the damage the electronics embargo might do - not to the Soviet economy, which has many times demonstrated its ability to survive such political obstacles - but to their own economic health and independence.

## A giant step for automation?

By Frank Brown

What could be described as a giant's step forward in industrial automation has just taken place. One of the giants is the US General Electric Company (the connexion with the British company of similar name) which has just announced a portable personal computer for use on the factory shop floor. The other is IBM, which collaborated in the machine's design.

Called the Workmaster, Programmable Control Information Centre, the suitcase-size computer enables shop-floor personnel to program quickly programmable controllers and robots.

Programmable controllers are compact microchip-based units which, because of their versatility and high reliability, are rapidly replacing relay-based

electro-mechanical systems for monitoring and controlling parameters such as flow, pressure and temperature in industries from baking to steel-making.

It is also a production management tool which documents all programming work carried out, can be used for data management and analysis and can be used as a control console/colour graphics workstation.

In this latter role, it is linked to a colour monitor and becomes a "window" on the automation system providing displays of discrete manufacturing operations for either monitoring or diagnostic purposes in real-time. This includes accurate animation of physical motion and position of machinery, liquid levels and other process variables. According to GE, the



GE's new portable personal computer for use in factories

Workmaster is easy to use because its programming language is based on the relay logic traditionally used by control engineers. A GE official said: "The language can be learnt in a day, and a programmable controller system can often be implemented over a weekend."

It is fully compatible with the IBM personal computer, and can therefore run any of the latter's 3,000-plus software packages.

The Workmaster is the latest in a string of new developments the American company has announced in recent years as part of its aim to become a major force in automation.

Since 1981, it has acquired a number of computer-aided engineering companies to consolidate its long-established industrial controls business and, in addition to building up a complete range of automation products, has been automating

its own plants throughout the world, an activity on which it spent more than £1.6 billion last year.

The company has already become the second largest supplier of programmable controllers in the US, and hopes for similar expansion in Europe. The Workmaster costs between £3,000 and £8,000 depending on options. The price includes development software.

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## Moonlighting for £2.5bn a year

By Ben Knox

"Someone's been moonlighting on the department's mainframe. There's a Trojan horse. And bandits. Every trace he plugs in, they plug in too."

The events portrayed in the BBC television series, *Bird of Prey* would paint a sorry picture of computer security in banking and government, if they were true. Unfortunately, the techniques, if not the ends to which they were put, are based on fact. The occurrence of computer fraud is far more frequent than we are led to believe. Independent security consultants admit that they have been called in to investigate computer related frauds at major companies and even lending banks, but are obviously unwilling to name their clients; the banks, for example, deny any such thing.

In a report published last year, Dr Ken Wong, manager of BIS Applied Systems' security division, estimated that losses resulting from computer-related fraud are running at £2.5 billion a year and are likely to increase by over 100 per cent during the next few years. Compared with figures from other sources, Dr Wong's are conservative. Amounts of more than three times his estimates have been suggested. Companies are unwilling to attract publicity and the perpetrators of such crimes are sometimes able to cover their tracks with relative ease, by erasing or changing data inside the very computer which they have defrauded.

Banks are the most obvious victims of computer fraud. Interestingly, they are less concerned with people from the outside linking in to their computers through the tele-



Richard Griffiths in *Bird of Prey*

phone system than they are about employees who are the greatest threat, as they have the greatest opportunities.

In such a complex and fast moving organization as banks, it is not surprising that errors occur. An employee is likely to be the first person to notice when a mistake is made and whether any action is taken by the bank to correct it. Once a loop-hole has been found in the system, the employees need only repeat the mistake once, or a thousand times and he could set himself aside a very nice nest-egg, without anyone else being the wiser.

In America, an employee of a California bank used his knowledge of the bank transfer systems to attempt to steal \$10.6 million. By strolling into the bank's transfer room and obtaining the authorization number for that day, he was able to pose as another branch and order a transfer into an account at another bank in New York.

Early last year, an insurance clerk was caught and charged with grand theft after she had

sent herself more than twenty cheques, totalling over \$100,000, to various addresses in Florida. She has used knowledge of the computer system to carry out the crime.

Although they are thought to be a lesser threat, people who break into systems through curiosity or mischief are a cause for concern. "Time bomb" programs are a popular prank played by computer science students at universities - a program is hidden somewhere in the computer's memory and at a specified time it is executed, crashing the whole computer or erasing important files and finally deleting itself, so no-one will know who wrote it.

The "Trojan Horse" is another method by which people can defraud systems. By adding extra commands to a program, a person can perpetrate a crime, while it looks as though he is doing something else.

It is worth noting that all the figures given in this article are based on the assumption that the crimes are committed by amateurs. Banks do not like to admit that organized crime could be involved. Whoever the criminals are, there is no doubt that the occurrences of these frauds will increase.

As they said in the television programme, "real time [computerized] banking is bad news for lots of people - there's going to be many a payroll bandit looking for other new openings when pay envelopes contain only computer slips. You're going to look rather silly, going over a bank counter with a showgun and a pickaxe handle, if all there is behind it is a computer terminal and satellite dish."

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THE TIMES  
Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your right share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Year price or loss
1	BURROUGHS AND WOODS	
2	Burnett & Hallan	
3	Miller (Stanley)	
4	Fel	
5	Ward	
6	Calfield	
7	Travis & Arnold	
8	Hogg & Hill	
9	Marchant	
10	Newmarket	
11	Lilly (EPC)	
12	Evered	
13	Hall Lloyd	
14	Salomonson	
15	Fitzwilliam	
16	Hewson	
17	Fogarty	
18	Granada	
19	Hewson & Job	
20	Electricals	
21	Foran	
22	Ud Leasing	
23	Cry Elect	
24	STC	
25	GEC	
26	UI	
27	Murray Elect	
28	Romney	
29	Newmarket	
30	Dale Elec	
31	DEAPERY AND STORES	
32	Mallett Leisure	
33	Raybeck	
34	Lincroft Kilgus	
35	Waring & Gillow	
36	MFI	
37	Marks & Spencer	
38	Steinberg	
39	Stuart Jewellers	
40	Hepworth (J)	

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

## BRITISH FUNDS

1984	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch/Vol	Ytd	P/E
10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1
10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2
10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3
10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4
10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5
10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6
10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7
10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8
10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9
10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10
10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11
10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12
10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13
10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14
10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15
10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16
10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17
10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18
10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19
10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20
10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21
10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22
10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23
10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24
10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25
10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26
10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27
10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28
10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29
10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30
10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31

1984	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch/Vol	Ytd	P/E
10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1
10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2
10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3
10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4
10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5
10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6
10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7
10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8
10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9
10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10
10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11
10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12
10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13
10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14
10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15
10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16
10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17
10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18
10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19
10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20
10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21
10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22
10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23
10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24
10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25
10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26
10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27
10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28
10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29
10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30
10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31

1984	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch/Vol	Ytd	P/E
10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1
10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2
10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3
10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4
10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5
10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6
10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7
10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8
10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9
10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10
10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11
10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12
10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13
10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14
10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15
10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16
10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17
10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18
10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19
10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20
10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21
10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22
10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23
10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24
10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25
10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26
10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27
10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28
10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29
10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30
10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31

1984	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch/Vol	Ytd	P/E
10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1	10/1
10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2	10/2
10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3	10/3
10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4	10/4
10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5	10/5
10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6	10/6
10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7
10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	10/8
10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9	10/9
10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10
10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11	10/11
10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12	10/12
10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13	10/13
10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14	10/14
10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15	10/15
10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16	10/16
10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17	10/17
10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/18
10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19	10/19
10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20	10/20
10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21	10/21
10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22	10/22
10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23	10/23
10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24	10/24
10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25	10/25
10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26	10/26
10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27	10/27
10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28	10/28
10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29	10/29
10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/30
10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31	10/31

BREWERIES							
1984	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch/vol	Ytd	P/E
128	128	128	Alief-Lyons	145	..	87	8.7
128	128	128	Beck's	200	..	88	8.8
128	128	128	Bus (Arthur)	143	..	89	8.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	90	9.0
128	128	128	Boone	130	..	91	9.1
128	128	128	Boone (company)	130	..	92	9.2
128	128	128	Burton (P P)	174	..	93	9.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	94	9.4
128	128	128	Danahill (J A)	404	..	146	9.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	147	9.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	148	10.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	149	10.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	150	10.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	151	10.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	152	10.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	153	10.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	154	10.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	155	10.7
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	156	10.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	157	10.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	158	11.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	159	11.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	160	11.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	161	11.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	162	11.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	163	11.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	164	11.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	165	11.7
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	166	11.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	167	11.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	168	12.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	169	12.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	170	12.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	171	12.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	172	12.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	173	12.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	174	12.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	175	12.7
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	176	12.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	177	12.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	178	13.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	179	13.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	180	13.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	181	13.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	182	13.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	183	13.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	184	13.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	185	13.7
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	186	13.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	187	13.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	188	14.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	189	14.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	190	14.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	191	14.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	192	14.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	193	14.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	194	14.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	195	14.7
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	196	14.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	197	14.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	198	15.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	199	15.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	200	15.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	201	15.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	202	15.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	203	15.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	204	15.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	205	15.7
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	206	15.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	207	15.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	208	16.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	209	16.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	210	16.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	211	16.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	212	16.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	213	16.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	214	16.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	215	16.7
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	216	16.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	217	16.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	218	17.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	219	17.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	220	17.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	221	17.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	222	17.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	223	17.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	224	17.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	225	17.7
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	226	17.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	227	17.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	228	18.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	229	18.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	230	18.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	231	18.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	232	18.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	233	18.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	234	18.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	235	18.7
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	236	18.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	237	18.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	238	19.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	239	19.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	240	19.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	241	19.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	242	19.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	243	19.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	244	19.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	245	19.7
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	246	19.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	247	19.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	248	20.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	249	20.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	250	20.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	251	20.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	252	20.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	253	20.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	254	20.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	255	20.7
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	256	20.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	257	20.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	258	21.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	259	21.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	260	21.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	261	21.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	262	21.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	263	21.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	264	21.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	265	21.7
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	266	21.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	267	21.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	268	22.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	269	22.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	270	22.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	271	22.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	272	22.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	273	22.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	274	22.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	275	22.7
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	276	22.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	277	22.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	278	23.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	279	23.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	280	23.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	281	23.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	282	23.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	283	23.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	284	23.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	285	23.7
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	286	23.8
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	287	23.9
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	288	24.0
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	289	24.1
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	290	24.2
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	291	24.3
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	292	24.4
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	293	24.5
128	128	128	Wolfe	130	..	294	24.6
128	128	128	Wolfe	130			



THE TIMES

# FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Old Lady needs a better early warning system

Not many of the brothers and sisters attending the Labour Party conference in Brighton may have noticed it, but yesterday a bank was nationalized. Johnson Matthey Bankers is hardly a household name, yet its instant and complete collapse so threatened banking confidence and the bullion market, not to mention the rest of the Johnson Matthey group, that the Bank of England was left at the eleventh hour, with no choice but to take it into the public sector where it rests with other names from the past like Slater Walker.

Charter Consolidated picks up the pieces of the rest of the group, encompassing precious metal refining, paints, ceramics, chemicals, and a host of related activities. The episode is deeply disturbing when the City is poised to enter the promised land of deregulation and financial super groups. It raises worrying questions about the Bank of England's existing system of supervision, let alone what might be needed in future.

It seems that one of the City's oldest banks staked its future and jeopardized that of the group on two loans apparently to African borrowers. The auditors were called in some weeks ago and by the beginning of last week the total deficiency of possibly £150m was more than the bank's capital.

Charter came involved on Friday and partly recapitalized Johnson Matthey by putting in £25m of convertible preference shares, which, if exercised, would raise the holding to 46 per cent. But that was not enough because of the heavy requirements for working capital and the severe undercapitalization caused by the bank's collapse. So a banking syndicate has extended the company's credit limit to £250m. Even so, Johnson Matthey's net worth has slumped from £250m to about £265m.

At that stage the authorities hoped to find another bank to take over Johnson Matthey Bankers. Discussions last week produced the Bank of Nova Scotia. The crisis came to a head at 9.30 on Sunday evening when the rescuing bank suddenly backed out.

The deal eventually struck when the rest of the city was at breakfast is a credit to the credit of all concerned and shows that the Bank of England has lost none of the skills acquired a decade ago. Effectively, the Johnson Matthey group paid the Bank £50m to take the fatally holed banking operation off its hands.

So a proud and ancient name has all but disappeared. Charter has enlarged its stake, but hardly in the same company as

that which originally attracted its attention. Charter has acted in a public-spirited way to help rescue Johnson Matthey. The latter's shareholders have reason to be grateful, but whether Charter's standing in the eye of jaded City analysts will improve is another matter. Charter, in the person of its chief executive and deputy chairman, Mr. Neil Clarke, who now becomes chairman of Johnson Matthey in place of Mr. Harry Hewitt is now at all intents and purposes running the ship of Johnson Matthey's industrial interests.

Meanwhile, the Bank of England faces the embarrassment of being one of the five members of the London gold-fixing ring and a sizable commodity dealer. No doubt the files from 1974 will be retrieved from some deep basement and the Bank will be left with a lot of questions to answer. How did the problem remain undetected by both bankers and bank supervisors for so long? The episode seems to expose dangerous weaknesses in the Bank of England's supervisory apparatus, even though it was reformed after the 1974 crisis.

The existing supervisory system depends heavily on the bank's judgment of the quality of their loans. Auditors are the first line of defence. It is crucial to this system that Johnson Matthey's auditors, Arthur Young McClelland Moore, did not qualify or make any reservations about the accounts.

Nevertheless, the Bank of England is supposed to be informed of any loans greater than 10 per cent of a bank's capital. For some time the Old Lady had been concerned about the position of Johnson Matthey Bankers, but it seems that these big loans had slipped its net.

It is critical to the system that objective has been met admirably. In the future, however, most substantial financial service groups in the City will be partly built around a bank. Charter itself will be an 8.9 per cent shareholder in the grouping which includes S-G Warburg. The repercussions of banking difficulties will therefore be that much more intense and spread than much later.

It would be complacent simply to write off the collapse of Johnson Matthey as an isolated case of bad loans. Shareholders and a wider public need to be assured that banking supervision will in future take full account of the City's rapidly changing structure. Crisis management is no substitute for crisis avoidance.

## Bank of England fears slower growth and rising inflation

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Bank of England, in its latest *Quarterly Bulletin*, is cautious about British growth prospects and concerned about inflation. The overall economic assessment from the Bank is considerably more pessimistic than that of the Treasury.

The Bank stresses the role of the miners' strike in unsettling financial markets. Government ministers have tended to play down the impact of the strike on market confidence.

The Bank takes the view that growth is slowing, even after the effects of the miners' strike have been excluded. "The industrial disputes have directly reduced growth this year from the rate of about 3 per cent achieved last year. Some eventual slowing had been widely expected and there are signs that even after

the disputes are settled underlying growth will not recover to its previous rate."

The chief concern on growth is that a consumer spending slowdown will not be fully offset by higher investment and exports.

It is unlikely, with the saving ratio now close to 10 per cent, that private consumption will lead the rise in activity, says the Bank.

Total industrial investment grew by 20 per cent between the third quarter of 1983 and the first quarter of 1984 but is forecast to rise at a slower rate into 1985.

The biggest doubt concerns trends in exports. The drop in the average value of sterling over the past year (although the latest sharp fall has not been

fully taken into account) has been offset by a rise in unit labour costs, up 4 per cent in manufacturing in the year to June.

Thus, despite sterling's decline in effective terms, any gain in competitiveness in the last year has been small. The Bank reports, British markets, despite growing at an annual rate of 10 per cent in the early part of this year, continue to lag behind the growth in world trade.

The rise in unit labour costs, and a slowdown in productivity growth, provides the main reason for the Bank's concern on inflation. The indications are that the Bank's economists are surprised that inflation has stayed in the 4.5 per cent-5 per cent range in spite of sterling

weakness and strong growth in real wages.

Resumption of the downward trend in inflation is more dependent on lower settlements in the present wage round than in recent years, the Bank says.

The miners' strike, apart from its direct effect on output, affected the conduct of monetary policy. The "severe turbulence" in financial markets during the summer was partly as a result of the strike, the Bank says, along with the American financial situation and concern over the domestic monetary situation.

British monetary and fiscal policies are on course, according to the Bank, and the implication is that there should be room for interest rate reductions.

## Deadline for Unilever bid

Mr Norman Tobitt has left until the last minute his decision on whether to refer Unilever's takeover bid for Brooke Bond to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. A decision will be announced today, only hours before Unilever's 114p a share offer is scheduled to expire. Unilever has bought more than 10 per cent of Brooke Bond, but two leading unit trust groups came out against the terms over the weekend. Yesterday Brooke Bond shares went up 1p to end ahead of the bid price at 115p.

### STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1127.7 down 12.6  
(High: 1136.7; low: 1127.7)  
FT Index: 856.9 down 11.5  
FT Oil: 80.50 down 0.30  
FT All Share: 531.27 down 4.59  
Bargains: 19.173  
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 102.70 up 0.16  
New York Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1,201.63 down 5.08  
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10,653.79 up 16.63  
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 998.19 down 13.31

### CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE  
Sterling index 75.5 down 0.1 (range 75.4-75.6)  
\$1.2375 up 25pts  
DM 3.7855 down 0.0070  
FF 11.5115 down 0.0085  
Yen 304.80 up 0.31  
Dollar index 141.7 down 0.2  
DM 3.0575 down 0.0090  
NEW YORK LATEST  
Sterling \$1.2400  
DM 3.0560  
INTERNATIONAL  
ECU £0.592085  
SDR £0.800485

### INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:  
Bank base rate 10%  
Finance houses base rate 11%  
Discount market loans week fixed 10% - 10%  
3 month interbank 10% - 10%  
Euro-currency rates:  
3 month dollar 11% - 11%  
3 month DM 5% - 5%  
3 month FF 11% - 11%  
US rates:  
Bank prime rate 12.75 - 12.50  
Fed funds 11%  
Treasury long bond 101% - 101%  
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period August 8 to September 4, 1984, inclusive: 10.806 per cent.

## £44m bid for Johnson Group

By Jeremy Warner

Nottingham Manufacturing Company, the cash-rich Marks and Spencer clothing supplier, yesterday launched a £44.4m takeover bid for Johnson Group Cleaners. The offer, which is worth 410p a share in cash with a loan note alternative, was immediately condemned as "totally unacceptable" by Johnson's chairman, Mr. John Crockett.

Nottingham Manufacturing has made a big acquisition since 1972 when it bought Lancaster Carpets. Yesterday's move was being seen in the City as a substantial diversification for the group.

However, Mr. Harry Djanogly, Nottingham's publicity-shy chairman, tried to present the takeover attempt as a "natural



John Crockett: bid unacceptable

extension of the group's activities into textile servicing". He claimed that there would be economies of scale and that the technology applied to the

group's commissioned dyeing and finishing business for textiles was the same as that used by Johnson in dry cleaning.

Mr. Crockett, however, refused to accept that there was any commercial logic in the bid and accused Mr. Djanogly of "not knowing much about the technology of dry cleaning" if he thought it was similar to that of dyeing.

Nottingham Manufacturing, which is being advised by Hambros Bank, claimed that Johnson did not have the resources to continue its growth in the United States at the same time as expanding in Britain.

On the stock market yesterday, Johnson's shares closed 75p higher at 440p - well above the value of Nottingham's bid.

## Investors take profits at Jaguar

By Jonathan Davis

The number of shareholders in Jaguar has shrunk from more than 125,000 to about 50,000 since the former state-owned car company's flotation on the stock market two months ago.

The figures, which emerged yesterday, mean that at least 60 per cent of those who initially received shares in the company have already sold out and taken a profit on their investment. This confirms the experience of previous Government privatization issues such as British Aerospace, Cable & Wireless and Amersham International, when the number of shareholders dropped sharply in the weeks after the initial flotation.

The 50,000 names on Jaguar's share register - which is now being drawn up formally for the first time since the company was sold on the stock market at the beginning of August - include some 9,000 Jaguar employees who were given free shares as part of the issue. At least a quarter of the successful applicants for Jaguar shares took their profits on the first day of dealings.

## Hawley to move its base to Bermuda

By Jonathan Clare

The Hawley Group, the security, cleaning and house improvement concern built by Mr. Michael Ashcroft, is to move its registered base to Bermuda.

Mr. Peter Bain, a director, said yesterday the move would help investors to see Hawley as an international company with equal interests in the US and the UK rather than just a British company with US involvement.

Analysts pointed out, however, that Electro-Protective Limited, Hawley's 56 per cent-owned security subsidiary, was also Bermuda-based and benefited from a low 5 per cent tax charge. Hawley's tax charge, estimated at about 30 per cent for this year, could similarly benefit from the move.

EPL is to be integrated with the rest of the Hawley security interests ahead of a US debate for the combined group next year.

The change in domicile will result in a Bermuda-incorporated holding company but with an international headquarters in the US as well as the existing headquarters in London.

Hawley said yesterday: "While it is expected that the group will continue to expand in the UK both organically and by acquisition, it is felt that the greater potential for future growth lies in the US."

Mr. Bain said that yesterday's structural changes were a natural extension of the reorganization started at the beginning of the year. These changes resulted in Hawley becoming the holding company for its 100 per cent-owned security and cleaning business.

Hawley's peripheral investments were shifted into the 40 per cent-owned Midlands holding company which also has a Bermuda subsidiary. However, Mr. Bain said there was no connection between Midlands and the move to Bermuda. The change of domicile will make no direct difference to British investors but the shares closed 3p down at 23p.

© The Misses World Group, the glamour and beauty contest company in which Midlands has a large stake, yesterday said it was paying £275,000 to buy the Greys casino and club in Newcastle-upon-Tyne from the receiver of Whitehart Enterprises.

## British Gas outlook buoyant

By David Young  
Energy Correspondent

The British Gas Corporation is now paying less for its supplies of natural gas than the European average, according to a survey by Wood Mackenzie, the stockbrokers.

The corporation has also succeeded in keeping exploration interest in the North Sea high enough to ensure new supplies and has paced contracts so that there is little prospect of contract prices being increased until the late 1980s.

Existing gas contracts, together with several new developments in the planning stages should supply sufficient gas to meet UK needs until the early 1990s, the survey says.

Therefore we do not expect

### Forecast of total gas sales

	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
Household	22.2	22.4	22.6	22.8	23.0	23.2	23.4
Industry	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Commercial	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	23.5	23.7	23.9	24.1	24.3	24.5	24.7

the British Gas Corporation to be aggressive buyers of further supplies in the short term. Equally the price offered on new contracts is unlikely to be raised up in the foreseeable future.

Wood Mackenzie agrees with British Gas that new supplies will have to be sought in the early 1990s. It suggests that the present level of exploration and discovery in the British sector argues well for the future.

However, British Gas is

already negotiating to buy gas from the Norwegian Sleipner field in a £20 billion deal.

The report suggests that gas demand will rise from its present 24 per cent of British consumption to 27 per cent in the year 2000.

Oil demand will remain fairly static, with the transport sector offering some growth, but the development of more fuel-efficient engines should counteract this.

The report also says that British industry is using less gas as heavy industries close and new high-technology industries take over.

Coal demand will fall towards the end of the century with increasing nuclear power being used to generate electricity. *Financial Times*, page 23.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Rowntree in bond issue

Rowntree Macintosh has followed ICI into the European market as an advantage of the business, the company says, those in the domestic bond market, and to top strong investor demand.

Yesterday it launched a £30m, five-year bond paying a coupon of 7% per cent with warrants attached. The 30,000 warrants each subscribe for 294 shares at 340p, which implies a 5.6 per cent dilution of Rowntree's equity.

© JOHN MENZIES, the newspaper distributor and high street retailer, has reported half-time results with pretax profits rising from £2.45m to £3.5m.

© CURRY'S is to pay an interim dividend of 1.5p (1.4p) for the six months to July 27, after reporting pretax profits of £8.5m (£9.4m) on sales ahead from £169m to £171m.

© MILLS & ALLEN is recommending a final dividend of 10p, making 14p (13p) for the year to June 30 after pretax profits rose from £19.1m to £20.2m. *Financial Times*, page 23.

## Accountancy barrier falls

By Ian Griffiths

Seven out of the top 10 accountancy firms came out with advertisements in the national press yesterday, celebrating the relaxation of the ethical rules which had previously prevented such overt self-promotion.

In the regions there were advertisements on local radio stations and Deloitte, Haskins and Sells revealed its secret life with television commercials.

This no doubt won the award for the most expensive advertisement while the prize for the biggest went to Coopers and Lybrand. It side-stepped the rule that firms may take no more than a quarter page of space in national newspapers by applying the advertisement to a recruitment drive.

Recruitment drives can be any size, so by offering jobs for all comers, and at the same time being asked to good firm Coopers & Lybrand was able to take out a full page of space.

The prize for most mentions of the firm's name in one advertisement went to Thomson Baker with over 60.

*Financial Times*, page 24.

## PHOTOSALES

Prints of The Times and Sunday Times photographs

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At Rhône-Poulenc, energy and drive, originality, imagination, are our stock-in-trade. And working with you to find the most creative and effective solution to your problems is our speciality. We are dynamic. And we are contagious.

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2 years ago, a major British textile company planned an important expansion. It was relying on the increasing use of its own speciality fibres.

All the same time a review within Rhône-Poulenc fibres put a question mark against the future of that product.

A dynamic interface was needed. Rhône-Poulenc (UK) Ltd supplied this close co-operation with both sides ensured that the more was given greater prominence.

Confident and successful, the viability of this innovative customer was not only proved but also realised and profitably.

At Rhône-Poulenc, energy and drive, originality, imagination, are our stock-in-trade. And working with you to find the most creative and effective solution to your problems is our speciality. We are dynamic. And we are contagious.

**OUR DYNAMISM IS CONTAGIOUS**

Wherever you are we have a team on the spot, with the resource and the will to get fast.

We have extensive research and development capabilities in a multiplicity of disciplines. In the UK we have been present through our subsidiary May & Baker Ltd for over 100 years. This major British company has well established, highly regarded products in pharmaceutical and chemical industries.

We're present in over ninety countries. In some as May & Baker Ltd, which gives us an international outlook. And the technological clout of a big group.

And as we keep demonstrating, we have the right kind of grey matter. The dynamic kind.

**RHÔNE-POULENC**

**THE CREATIVE CHEMICAL COMPANY WORLDWIDE**



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At 3i, on the other hand, you'll meet both. But you won't meet a single stuffed shirt.

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Within 3i, we deal with large projects and are prepared to back any one company with up to £35m or more; we have ICFC,

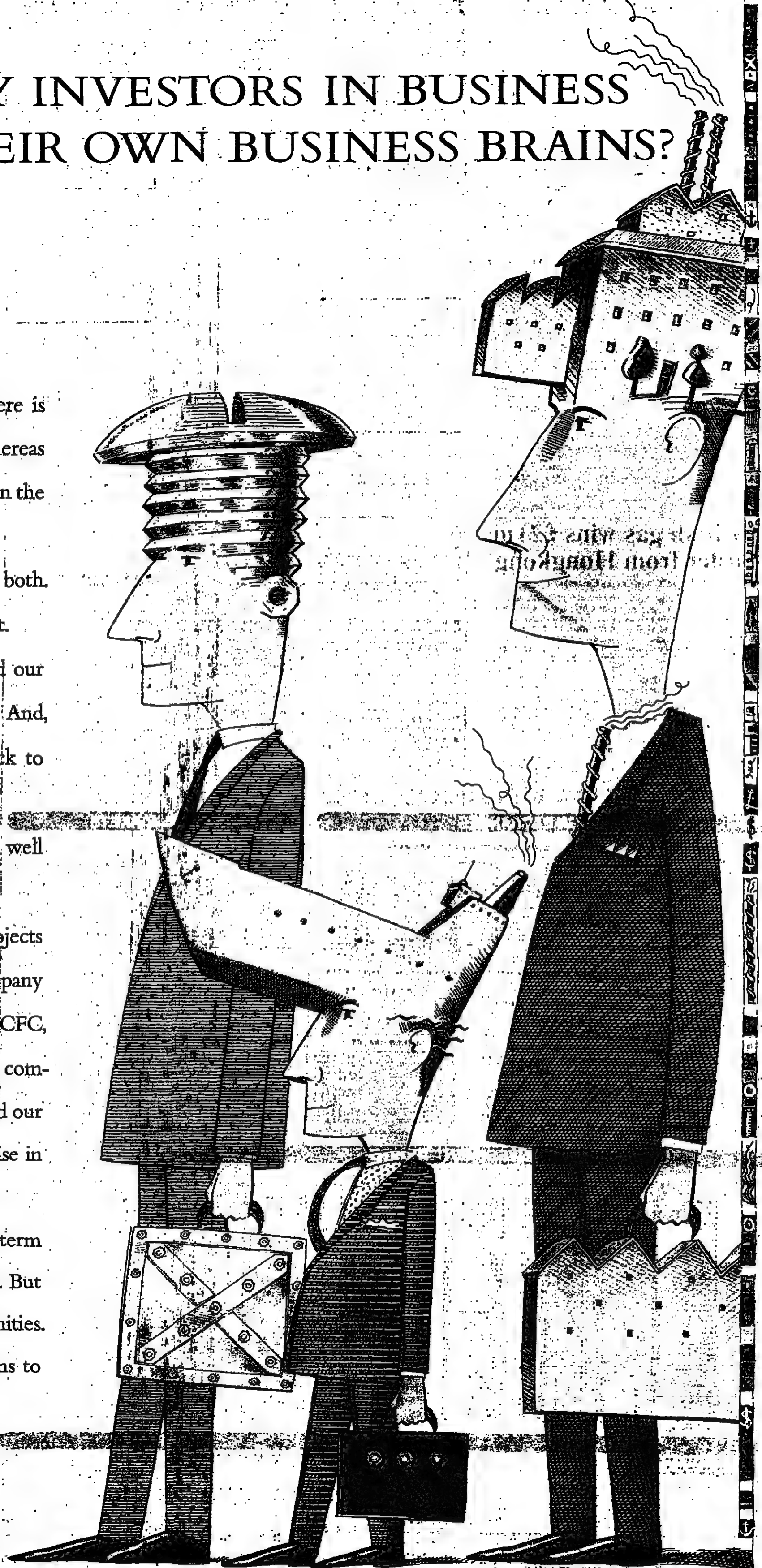


whose understanding of small companies' problems is unique; and our Ventures Division who specialise in high-technology businesses.

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Thank goodness we've got the brains to recognise them when they arise.

THE CREATIVE USE OF MONEY





## STOCK MARKET REPORT

## American fears sober DCL shares

By Derek Pain

Fears that the Distillers Co. the White Horse Scotch whisky to Chandon's gin group, is having a particularly sober time in its important United States market, clipped the shares yesterday.

The unexpected banking problems at Johnson Matthey, the Labour Party conference at Blackpool and a weak Wall Street combined to create a subdued start to the new week and the DCL's 4p fall to 260p was in keeping with the general drift of the leaders.

North America is by far the most important world market

A brewing reorganisation plan for DCL's Scotch whisky division could provide a 25% rise in profits in a full year, according to Colin Mitchell of Buckmaster and Moore, the DCL's legal advisers. In the year just ended DCL's profits rose 4% to £10.6m, but the reorganisation was expected to produce a 25% rise in profits, according to Mitchell.

for the DCL and for the past year there have been hopes that the Scotch whisky industry in general - and the DCL in particular - was beginning to make strong transatlantic headway.

Mr Mitchell said that the DCL's profits were expected to rise 4% to £10.6m, but the reorganisation was expected to produce a 25% rise in profits, according to Mitchell.

When the US a year ago, Mr Mitchell was encouraged by sales and suggested the DCL was doing rather better than many observers believed. But his optimism has now evaporated.

Walker's impression could help explain the subdued tone of Mr John Connell, DCL

chairman, when he addressed shareholders last month. He then forecast a "moderate" profit improvement.

With the exception of a sprinkling of takeover hopefuls, equities were flat. The FT 30 share index was lower 11.5 points to 856.9 points. The FT-SE index, which achieved a new peak last Thursday, was in step with its more cautious indicator, falling 12.6 points to 1,127.7 points. Trading was, however, reasonably active.

Government stocks had a roller-coaster day, ending with a balance, gains of up to 2% among the long. But shorts failed to recover to opening levels, closing with falls of up to 10p. A steady sterling offered little encouragement.

The rescue of Johnson Matthey ruffled the banking sector, which on the much more reliable Argentina debt situation, made strong headway last week. Kleinwort Benson, the merchant banker, slipped 4.5p to 450p, some of the shares, including the London Prudential investment trust, sought a home.

DCL, the packaging and stationery group which announced a 12 per cent interim profits advance last week at one time hit 136p in its ex-dividend form, up 10p before easing to late trading.

Rumours again circulated of a bidder lurking, with Bunzl named as one possible predator.

Managers, Target, which has been buying into Charter Consolidated and now has, it is believed, approaching 4 per cent of the capital, fell 3p to 239p. Charter Cons, following its deeper Johnson Matthey involvement, was down 25p to 216p at one time.

But revived speculation that

Hanson may still wish to get more closely involved with Charter Cons, which is effectively controlled by Oppenheimer interests, sparked a little late interest and the shares closed at 221p.

Aeronautical and General Investments slipped 20p to 330p, a thin market, but the shares have remained firm on hopes that Crystalline will invest some of its Royal Worcester cash in a takeover bid for the company.

The reorganisation put 4p to 84p on Hawley and Riley Leisure, which reports today eased 5p to 56p.

Thorn EM1 slipped 3p to 419p, following a presentation to brokers. The talk-in does not appear to have encouraged many profit forecast revisions. About 165m is expected for the full year, which would represent a 5 per cent advance. But the market is braced for

Is the penny share about to achieve a comeback? Henderson Criswell, the broker, is bringing Criswell & Right Group, a consultancy specialising in new product development, to the USM. The capital is £70,000 in shares with a 10p nominal value. The placing price is likely to be near £1.

Profits last year were £225,000 and about £45,000 seems likely for the year just ended.

lower interims, perhaps even down 2 per cent.

The group's shares have had a traumatic time this year, falling by as much as 40 per cent.

Grand Metropolitan, after last week's profit revisions, shaded just 2p to 284p.

American favourites were weak. Imperial Chemical Industries eased 6p to 648p and Beecham Group tumbled 10p to 358p. Glaxo Group was marked down 15p to 975p. Another FT 30 index constituent under the weather was the TI Group which fell by 12p to 222p.

The day's sharpest movement was achieved by Johnson Group, the cleaners. On the appearance of the unexpected bid from Nottingham Manufacturing, the shares jumped 75p to 440p. It is the third time Johnson has attracted a bid in the past eight years.

Fading bid hopes and tomorrow's shareholders' meeting combined to trim Fleet Holdings 10p to 184p.

Rugby Portland Cement was little changed at 116p following much as expected profits. The shares have in recent months enjoyed the odd speculative flurry.

Stores were weak. The 10 per cent profit setback by the Curry's electrical group was a large depressing influence. Curry's shares fell 15p to 248p. John Menzies, despite good figures, eased 7p to 191p.

Style, the family controlled shoe shop chain, slipped 3p to 127p as the company revealed another set of losses. The shares have, however, been strong lately on hopes that British

Equity turnover on Friday was valued at £308.99m with 19,646 bargains. Gift transactions were 2,957. Total number of UK and Irish shares traded was 202.6 million.

Oils were weak although Petrol continued to attract support following its Sweetwater deal.

Portland Industries, the shoe group, came in for another speculative run. The shares, a thin market, jumped 25p to 205p at one time. They closed at 202p.

The Irish oil stocks were back in favour. Atlantic Resources advanced 14p to 138p at one stage. They closed at 122p.

Reliant Motor, following the launch of its new sports car, the Scimitar SS1, made further progress, reaching 47p, making a 5p two day gain.

A. & P. Appledore Group, the shipbuilding and shiprepairing consultants once related to the crashed Court Line, is coming to the full market through a placing by Kitch and Aitken, the broker. Profits are forecast at £690,000 for the year just ended. At the 87p placing price the shares are selling at 8.34 times estimated earnings and offer a 5 per cent prospective dividend.

Beers were again weak but there was a smattering of modest gains among hotel stocks. TV shares made progress. HTV jumped 9p to 305p.

Ulster TV edged forward. Holiday shares, such as Horizon where Grand Metropolitan still lurks with a near 5 per cent shareholding, jumped 10p to 165p.

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## TEMPERATURE

## Hidden appeal beneath Curry's' flat figures

Curry's has been a fashionable sell recently in favour of Divons for fairly obvious reasons. Curry's 30:50 sales split between brown and white goods seems less growth oriented than Divons' 100 per cent brown goods concentration.

Analysts dislike the small average size of a Curry's store, and wonder too about the commercial wisdom of relying so much on credit sales - still about 40 per cent of total turnover. Last month's withdrawal from the small business computers market has not provoked optimism over the quality of Curry's management.

To some extent, the interim figures confirm these fears. Tough trading conditions show up in the £4.5m drop in gross profits to £5.2m. The interest bill has jumped by 62 per cent to £1.4m. The underlying sales growth rate is just 7 per cent.

After adjusting for hire-purchase business, Presumably any stores group which imports a design consultant to look at the chain is unhappy with the present format.

But even allowing for the drop in credit trading balances of £4m to £41.7m - which in turn suggests that the consumer boom is beginning to enter the final stages of the cycle - it looks unwise to write the group off completely. Curry's is still a powerful organization.

This shows through in the composition of figures which make up the difference between trading and pretax profits. At last year's interim stage, gross and pretax profits were almost the same at about £9m, as assets value of £3m complemented a £2.4m debit on the HP account; new business, outweighed net repayments.

This year, however, a £5m plus upturn in the HP account, as trading conditions return to near normal, leaves pretax profits £1m down at £8.5m. And these figures have been struck after absorbing about

£1m of closure costs on the computer chain.

With unmatured profit in the HP account still worth £29m, the group has still to bring through to profits the full benefits of the spending boom in the early 1980s. The group has enough muscle to recover against nimbler competitors, and bid appeal too if the counter-attack fails. A speculative buy at 260p?

Mills & Allen

The headline-catching element at Mills & Allen is the group's imaginative plan to float its media side, thus transforming itself into a fully-valued binary operation, half money broker, half holding company. Hopefully, in this case, two and two make five.

Less obvious, however, have been other divestment moves, which show up in a £3m net surplus below the line, plus the careful link with the Tokyo money market, via joint venture deals with Ueda Tanshi. Such moves look to form part of a coherent master plan, aimed on one level, at providing a round-the-clock money and security broking service in the London-New York-London triangle.

On a second tier, Mills & Allen sounds keen to open up the retail financial services market, which sells direct to the public.

On this basis, it would make perfect sense to float the whole of the media side, netting perhaps £40m to provide the start-up capital for the retail services side. But if the group finishes up with around £50m cash in the balance sheet after its various corporate manoeuvres, feeding off the predators may eventually pose insuperable problems. At 355p, the shares are a hold.

John Menzies

The stores sector caught something of a cold yesterday and despite good interim results, John Menzies could not resist the bug and saw its shares drop

7p to 191p. It seemed an overly-harsh reaction. The shares may not offer too much to go for in the short term but Menzies remains a fundamentally strong business.

At the pretax level, profits were up by more than £1m to £3.3m boosted by improved contributions from the library supplies and stationery operations which have been successfully integrated into the group structure.

Menzies has also sold the Lonsdale Technica group acquired as part of the Lonsdale Universal takeover two years ago. The sale fetched £7.5m, which is well in excess of the £6.3m which Menzies paid for the entire Lonsdale group.

The cash will be set against borrowings, which had risen to more than £15m at the end of last year. This, together with continued strong cash flow, will ensure that by the end of the current year the group will have a positive net cash position.

Another move which should help the group's balance sheet is the sale of its leasing interests. There cannot be too much future for Menzies in this field, and it will come as no surprise if the leasing company is sold shortly, with an immediate £9m reduction in borrowings.

Given the tight family shareholdings at Menzies, the group does not want to use paper to finance acquisitions. By the year-end, it will be in a position to move on the takeover trail again as it looks for more growth potential and a further opportunity to even out the imbalance between the two halves of the year.

Christmas still remains a key period for Menzies, but with the retail division doing well there is no reason to expect a disappointment. The wholesale operations are doing well, as the newspaper Bingo circulation war heats up and the group is still on target for pretax profits of more than £10m in the full year.

## British gas wins £21m order from Hongkong

By David Young Energy Correspondent

British Gas Corporation technology is being sought by the Hong Kong Government to build four new plants to almost double the colony's gas production. The contract is worth more than £21m.

The plants will be built by Babcock Woodhall-Dunkham at a site in the New Territories and will raise output in the colony from the present 105 million cu ft a day to 210 million cu ft.

It is estimated that Hong Kong will need four million cu ft of gas by the end of 1985, and will be able to produce industrial gas for processing plants.

by the Hong Kong and China Gas Company and will be based on high pressure gas technology developed by the British Gas research centre in Solihull.

Hong Kong's present gas output is based on plants and technology which depend entirely on oil. The British Gas designs produce synthetic natural gas with a process which is being developed for use in Britain to meet the eventualities of North Sea gas supplies being disrupted.

Rolls-Royce has won an order worth £40m for jet engines and spares from Hong Kong-based Cathay Pacific Airways. The order is for 10 four-hand RB211 engines

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## COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● LAMONT HOLDINGS: Half-year to June 30, interim 0.7p (0.5p). Figures in £000. Turnover 1,135,000. Trading profit 1,350 (870). Pretax profit 1,280 (612). After interest 276 (258). Tax 104 (39). Minorities 29 (credit 2). EPS 6.23p (4.14p).

● S G INTERNATIONAL: Half-year to June 30, interim 0.35p on increased capital (0.35p). Figures in £000. Turnover 153,300 (146,500). Pretax profit 2,014 (1,581). Benefit of the rights issue in June will be reflected in reduced interest charges from July onwards. The board expects to recommend at least the same rates of dividend for the current year as paid for 1983. These will be paid on the enlarged capital after the rights issue.

● EXTEL'S DESIGN ACQUISITION: Exel Advertising and PR, the public relations and financial advertising arm of the Exel Group, has acquired the Turner Porter design consultancy, whose clients include Barclays Bank, SICI and British Airways. The consideration

is £250,000 of which £200,000 has been paid in cash and the balance will be satisfied by the allotment of ordinary shares of the Exel Group.

● GEORGE BLAIR (traded on the over-the-counter market): Year to March 31. Figures in £000. Turnover 13,607 (12,737). Pretax profit 775 (10) after interest payable 248 (392) and severance payments 79 (40). No tax (same). EPS 14.91p (0.52p).

● T R PACIFIC BASIN INVESTMENT TRUST: Half-year to July 1. Pretax revenue £589,000 (£601,000). Net asset value per share at July 31, 347p (216p a year earlier). Interim payment 1p (same).

● SPONG HOLDINGS: Half-year to June 30. Figures in £000. Sales 1,272.9 (668.0). Pretax profit 71.5 (265.5). Tax 18.0 (nil). Leaving 53.5 (265.5) loss. Earnings per share 0.235p (0.002p loss). The board has confidence that reference assets will be disposed of early in 1985 with the expected elimination of the current deficit on the profit

and loss account. It will then be able to give a serious consideration of ordinary dividends.

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## Scottish clubs may lose points

The Scottish Football Association have recommended that two premier division matches which were marred by crowd violence should either be replayed, or that Rangers and Hearts of Midlothian should forfeit the points.

The SFA disciplinary committee announced their shock judgement after studying reports into a pitch invasion during the Edinburgh derby between Hibernian and Hearts on August 24, and the incident two weeks later when the Edinburgh defender, Kevin McKee, was assaulted by a supporter during the league match against Rangers at Ibrox.

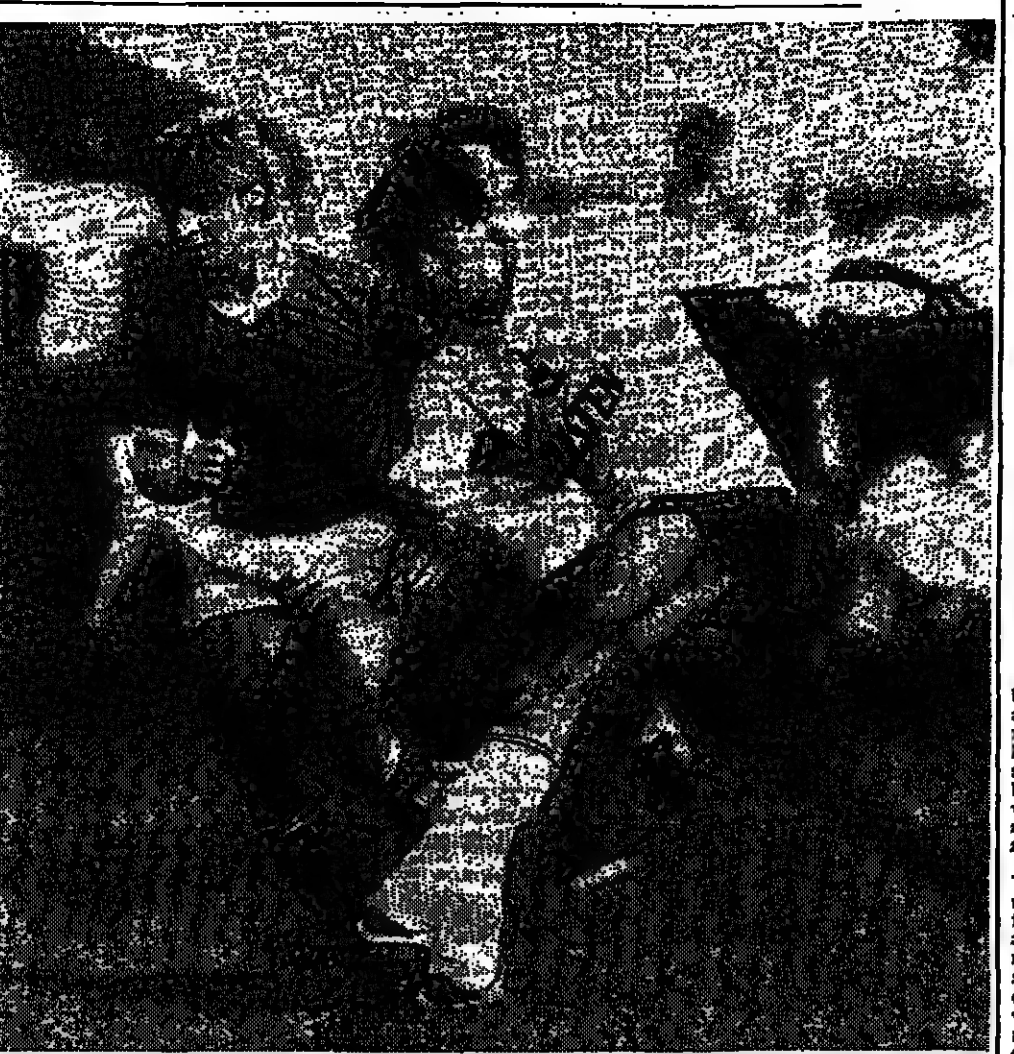
Now the Scottish League will have to decide whether to endorse the SFA's recommendations at their management committee meeting, in Glasgow on October 18, or impose less stringent penalties of their own.

The SFA have actively pursued a campaign to stamp out football hooliganism this season and the secretary, Ernie Walker, said: "The committee is in no doubt that the intrusion of spectators in both games affected the match - or was an attempt to affect the match. In these circumstances, they recommend that the Scottish League revoke Rule 82 and require these matches to be replayed, or that they should deduct points or a point from the offending clubs, Rangers and Hearts."

"If they should decide to do that, the SFA would give their full backing to this decision, and the committee recommends that the SFA itself invoke its own similar rule which any such conduct of interference arise at Scottish Cup or qualifying cup ties."

Pat Stanton, who resigned as manager of Hibernian two weeks ago, has been fined £500 and banned from the dugout for a year. The FA imposed the penalties following an incident where he was ordered into the stand during the premier division game between Aberdeen and Hibernian on September 1.

The Kilmarnock manager, Jim Clunie, once Lawrie McMenamy's assistant at Southampton, has resigned.



On target: Glenn Hoddle displays all his familiar shooting power in scoring for Spurs reserves in the 5-1 win over Swindon in the Football Combination at Chesham yesterday. Like Hoddle, Ardie also came through the game without mishap.

## QPR's riches beyond the Icelandic fish bar

Queen's Park Rangers and Everton are like pirates who upon opening the treasure chest found only a map directing them to another chest. They will find none of the riches that they were promised in European competition tonight but at least they seem secure on the trail of the treasure.

Rangers and Everton can expect to attract only the hard core supporter and the curious to their first round second leg ties against Reykjavik and University College Dublin, respectively. Rangers have a ticket list of about 8,000 spectators, 3,000 less than they would have had the match been at Loftus Road. Because of the UEFA ban on their artificial pitch Rangers will be playing at Highbury

and after the extra expenses incurred stand to make only a "small profit". At least Everton can draw on the heavy Irish contingent in Liverpool, the area of Highbury has to offer in the way of support for the visitors is an Icelandic fish bar in Archway Road.

Rangers lead 3-0 from the first leg of this UEFA Cup tie and have done their best to sell the second leg even if there appears to be some conflict in their promotion angles. Alan Mullery, the manager, has promised a goal bonanza, and Ron Phillips, the secretary, tells us that the result is not a foregone conclusion. The best one can say is that Rangers' form of late is a little erratic. Ankle injuries make Micklewhite, an ever present, unavailable, and Stainrod,

who scored two goals in Reykjavik, doubtful. Stewart will play and Charles is on standby.

Everton will want to erase the professional embarrassment of the goalless draw in the first leg of this Cup Winners' Cup tie. The Icelandic Curlew, sent off in the last minute at Watford on Saturday is retained. Howard Kendall, the manager, will consider disciplining him when he has had the referee's report. Stoney and Gray are also retained. "Our falling last time was probably that we didn't show enough imagination."

Gordon Strachan, Manchester United's penalty midfielder, is out of the second leg of the UEFA Cup first round match with Raba Vass Gyoei in Hungary tomorrow.

Managers in demand and out of favour

Manchester City manager Billy McNeill will have to walk out on the club if he wishes to take charge at Hibernian. Peter Swales confirmed yesterday that he wanted McNeill, who has two years of his contract remaining, to stay.

McNeill said: "The chairman has put the position to me. I want to go home and think about things before making a decision. He mentioned an extension of my contract and it's lovely to have such a vote of confidence. But I've three daughters living in Glasgow and I would like to be with my family."

"This has been a bit of a shock to me. I have been fantastic at City and I could not have hoped for a better club. Had it not been for my family there would not have been a decision to make."

Aston Villa are to approach the FA about the controversial sending-off of former England forward Peter Withe at Ipswich last Saturday. Withe was sent off for allegedly making an obscene gesture to a hibernian. He mentioned an extension of my contract and it's lovely to have such a vote of confidence. But I've three daughters living in Glasgow and I would like to be with my family."

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## Francisco ready for his biggest break yet

By Sydney Friskin

Silvio Francisco, from Cape Town, moved competently into the quarter-finals of the Jameson Whisky International Tournament at Newcastle yesterday in a little over three hours he defeated John Virgo 5-2, completing his work with a snooker run on the colours up to the pink.

It was a match full of splendid recovery shots and complicated escape routes. The South African made better use of his opportunities although, as he admitted, "I should not have lost the first frame". It was snatched from him by Virgo who potted the last three balls to win on the black after Francisco had been snookered on the blue.

Francisco has not so far stepped beyond the quarter-final round of any important tournament but he now hopes that the golden days have been opened for him. He was snatched from him by Virgo who potted the last three balls to win on the black after Francisco had been snookered on the blue.

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## Skeeton and Radius on the right lines

By Jenny MacArthur

The Everest stud in Warwickshire made a fine start to the Horse of the Year show at Wembley yesterday when Nick Skeeton and Everest Radius, gave a rare opportunity to watch this once in a lifetime partnership.

Iain Morgan, the 1983 junior European champion, who was injured in a fall from a lorry a week ago, will not be jumping at the show following medical advice.

Everest Radius, who had a year off after breaking down at Goteborg in 1982, has been placed consistently since his return to the saddle. He and the evergreen, outstanding Skeeton, who is 26, won with consummate ease, finishing more than two seconds ahead of Billington.

Michael Whitaker, whose Olympic horse Amanda was rushed to the Royal Veterinary College in Potters Bar with suspected colic at the weekend, said the ten-year-old mare was making a steady recovery after an operation for a displacement of part of the bowel.

Now in need of another grand prize horse to fill the gap, Whitaker has been offered the ride on one of Tony Elliott's horses, either Pavarotti or Rio Grande.

One of the highlights of this year's show are the dressage displays given by Reiner Klimke, the West German rider, whose two gold medals crowned one of the most successful of the season.

Major received his marching orders early in the game when a touch judge intervened following a tackle which laid out the Bridgford loose forward, Gordon Frithwell. Major protested his innocence at the time, and members of the crowd and reporters at the match who had seen the incident were equally bemused, believing that the offending player was an experienced forward who had had previous

brushes with the disciplinary committee.

Swinton hope to include an Australian and a New Zealand Maori in their reserve team against Salford on Saturday. They are the speedy Maori half back, Wayne Rennie, who has previously played in this country for Widnes, and the forward from Manly, Ian Thomson. Swinton have now ended their interest in a possible player exchange between their own second row forward Jeff Brown and the Fulham utility player David Allen.

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## LTA refuse to blame Hutchins for defeat

By Rex Bellamy

Paul Hutchins, who has been Britain's national team manager since 1975, said yesterday that he was "in the middle of negotiating" a new two-year contract offered to him last week by the Lawn Tennis Association. "I have told them that in principle I will accept it," he added, "but there are a few things to sort out."

Hutchins's present contract will expire in February. Previous renewals of his contract have not aroused much comment. It has only become of interest now because of the tendency to search for a scapegoat after Wimbledon's 4-1 win over Britain in a Davis Cup tie at Eastbourne last week.

Rather than criticising the manager, perhaps we should note that Britain's defeat was not a surprise. Hutchins, who has an admirable doubles record, but has won only 12 of his 30 Davis Cup singles, and the experience of a former Wimbledon champion, is primarily responsible for selecting and managing national teams from limited and often fragile resources. The task of strengthening these resources is one he shares with the LTA as a whole.

Sue Mappin, who has been the women's training officer and national team manager since January, 1979, will finish her second three-year contract in December, but is willing to accept another, similar contract. "I want to finish the job I was employed to do," she said yesterday. "As far as I can see, what I'm doing is working."

(Rex Bellamy) - Sweden's national team manager, Mats Wilander, last week at the quarter-final stage in St Louis in 1982 when McEnroe was the American saviour with a memorable 3-2, 6-2, 15-7, 3-6, 6-6 win over Mats Wilander in the decisive fifth and final rubber.

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## Swales in move to retain McNeill

Manchester City manager Billy McNeill will have to walk out on the club if he wishes to take charge at Hibernian. Peter Swales confirmed yesterday that he wanted McNeill, who has two years of his contract remaining, to stay.

McNeill said: "The chairman has put the position to me. I want to go home and think about things before making a decision. He mentioned an extension of my contract and it's lovely to have such a vote of confidence. But I've three daughters living in Glasgow and I would like to be with my family."

"This has been a bit of a shock to me. I have been fantastic at City and I could not have hoped for a better club. Had it not been for my family there would not have been a decision to make."

Aston Villa are to approach the FA about the controversial sending-off of former England forward Peter Withe at Ipswich last Saturday. Withe was sent off for allegedly making an obscene gesture to a hibernian. He mentioned an extension of my contract and it's lovely to have such a vote of confidence. But I've three daughters living in Glasgow and I would like to be with my family."

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**Ewbank Preece Limited**

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also on page  
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